



# Measure W Public Safety Sales Tax Five Year Review

October 2009

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## Special points of interest:

- Impact on the Stockton Fire Department
- Measure W Sales Tax Revenue by Fiscal Year
- Impact on the Stockton Police Department
- How were Measure W Funds spent?

## Five Years Since Voters Passed Measure W

On November 2, 2004 the voters of Stockton passed *The Stockton Safe Neighborhood Gang and Drug Prevention, Police/Fire Response Measure*, also known as Measure W. Approval of the measure enabled the collection of a one-quarter percent sales tax to fund Public Safety services.

The Measure W Program Guidelines, as approved by the City Council, require a review of the Measure W program every five years. The first review and report is to be completed five years after the measure was passed by voters or November 2, 2009.

This Five Year Review covers the period beginning April 1, 2005 (when sales tax revenue collection started) and ending June 30, 2009.

In this five year period, the Fire Department has used Measure W funds to provide staffing for engine company 13, two truck companies, and the training division.

The Police Department immediately began hiring Police Officers and had six new Measure W-funded Police Officers by June 30, 2005. The Police Department has continued to hire, train, and deploy Police Officer throughout Stockton with Measure W funds.



## Fire Department

Measure W made an immediate impact in the Fire Department by fully funding firefighters to open engine company 13 in northeast Stockton. This area of the city was experiencing response times that exceeded National Fire Protection Agency standards. Firefighters from the new station responded to their first emergency medical call, a cardiac arrest, just 18 minutes after being placed in service on March 29, 2005 and arrived on scene in less than 3 minutes.

Measure W funding also allowed a new truck company to be placed in service in March 2006 to provide assistance in north Stockton from company 7 on Hammer Lane. Measure W funding is vital to the adequate staffing of the Fire Department. A total of 28 firefighter positions were created because of Measure W.

## Police Department

Measure W has created an increase in Police presence throughout Stockton, and this has influenced the reduction in crime over the past three years helping to provide a safer community for all.

For the greater part of fiscal year 2008-09 Measure W was fully staffed, with 40 sworn officers. Included with staffing is the deployment of Police patrol vehicles, portable radios, mobile data computers, body armor, training, and securing other safety items required to put each Officer in a "field-ready" status.



Measure W Officers participate in enforcement teams such as the Kentfield Action, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), and Mobile Field Force; and are assigned to the Equestrian and Field Training Officer Programs. One Officer is assigned as a Motorcycle Officer in the Traffic Section.

Throughout the year the Police continue to implement strategies to reduce gang and drug related crime; expand community policing in Stockton schools, parks, and neighborhoods, improve response to calls for service; and improve police training.

### In this issue:

#### Five Years of Measure W

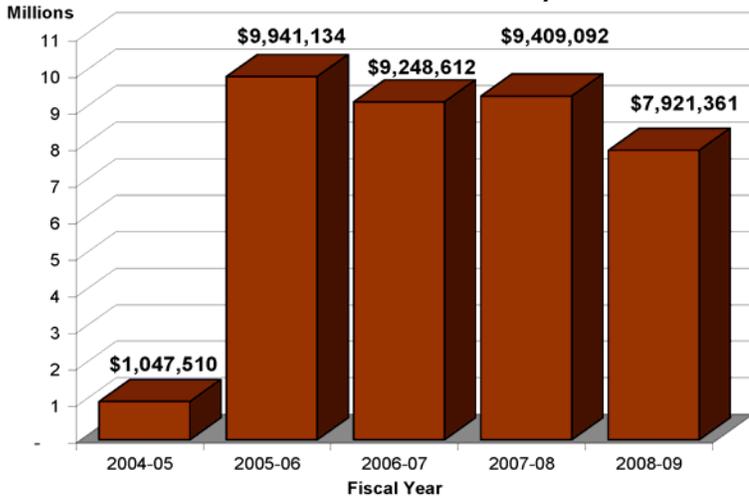
Impact on Police & Fire Services	1
Revenue & Expenditures	2
Fiscal Accountability	2

# The Stockton Safe Neighborhood Gang and Drug Prevention, Police/Fire Response Measure

For more information about Measure W:  
[www.stocktongov.com/measurew](http://www.stocktongov.com/measurew)

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**Measure W Sales Tax Revenue by Fiscal Year**



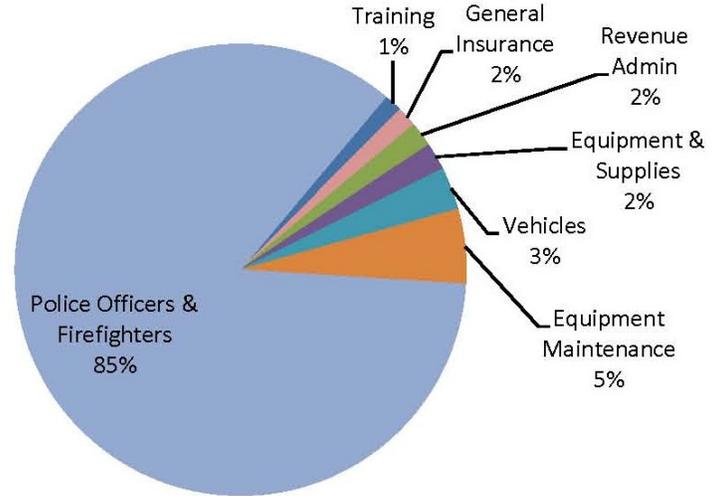
## Revenues

As of June 30, 2009 the Measure W sales tax had generated \$37.6 million to fund additional Police and Fire services. The Measure W fund has also received revenue from interest earnings and Workers' Compensation Reimbursements. Revenues totaled \$38,007,972 in this five year period.

## Expenditures

The Police and Fire Departments have spent a total of \$37.7 million on improving public safety between April 2005 and June 2009. Since Measure W began, the Police Department has hired over 40 police officers and purchased 31 patrol vehicles with Measure W funds. The Fire Department purchased a fire engine and provided staffing for one Engine Company and partial staffing for two Truck Companies.

**How were Measure W Funds spent?**



## Measure W: Fiscal Accountability

The Measure W Program Guidelines call for specific measures to be taken to make certain the funds are spent according to the voter's direction and to ensure the public is well-informed. The City has been diligent in complying with these guidelines.

Police Chief, Fire Chief and City financial staff. Based on their findings each year the Committee submits an annual report to the City Council.

5. Measure W information has been sent out in City utility bills and posted to the City's website. A Measure W web page was created to make the program policy documents and annual reports available to the public.

6. An Economic Uncertainty fund was funded at 17% of budgeted revenues before the economy started to decline. The recommended funding level is 25% of the annual budgeted revenues. For the last two fiscal years revenues have come in below budgeted revenues and the reserve account balance has been used to make up the difference between actual revenues and expenditures.

7. Measure W funds have been used for additional Police and Fire operations. Until Fiscal Year 2008-09 General Fund dollars for Public Safety continued to grow. As the City began addressing the 2008-09 budget deficit that resulted from the economic downturn, both General Fund and Measure W public safety funding had to be reduced. The measure continues to fund additional Police and Fire positions that would not be filled without the Measure W sales tax revenue.

1. A new fund was established in the City's accounting system just for Measure W revenues and expenditures. The revenues received from Measure W sales tax are kept separate from all other City revenue sources.

2. Revenue and expenses for the Police and Fire Departments are tracked separately through the accounting system.

3. An Independent Auditor has reviewed the financials annually and issued an audit report.

4. A Citizen's Oversight Committee was formed in April 2005. The committee has met each year to review revenues and expenditures related to the measure. The committee also reviews the findings of the annual audit reports and discusses the progress of Measure W with the

