

MEASURE EE FACT SHEET

- ✓ Strict accountability and oversight by a Citizens Oversight Committee.
- ✓ Funding can only be used for specific voter-approved purposes.
- ✓ Assessment is 16¢ per square foot of habitable space, not including garages and yards.
- ✓ 70% of funding will come from those who can afford it the most — big business and corporations.
- ✓ Seniors and disabled are exempt.
- ✓ No direct tax on renters, and parcel tax cannot be passed on to renters under rent control.
- ✓ Average homeowner will pay the equivalent of \$20 a month — that amount will leverage hundreds of millions of dollars more from wealthy corporations to help our kids.



FAQ on member questions

What happens if Measure EE fails?

If Measure EE fails, we will be fighting layoffs, healthcare cuts, program cuts, and school closures in the very near future. Our strike engendered an outpouring of support for public schools and forced the district to use its historically large reserve to start the process of reinvesting in our students. Once that one-time money is gone, we are back to the same pre-strike conditions — and with healthcare negotiations beginning in 2020. The district has already indicated their intent to go after retiree healthcare if more ongoing funds are not available. Passing Measure EE will help us win that fight and many more.

Won't Measure EE hurt homeowners and renters?

Measure EE puts the lion's share of the burden on those who can afford it the most: commercial properties and industrial sites with large buildings. Big businesses and corporate landlords would fund more than 70% of the measure, and homeowners would pay only 18%. The average homeowner would pay \$20 a month – that modest sum allows the measure to leverage hundreds of millions of dollars more from wealthy corporations. There is no direct tax on renters, and the parcel tax cannot be passed on to renters under rent control.

How do we make sure that the district is accountable in how it spends EE money?

There has never been a silver bullet for accountability—not with Prop. 30, 55, or other monies. That said, we have tremendous strength to hold the district accountable on EE. Measure EE has strict accountability requirements, including an annual independent financial audit and a citizens' oversight committee to make sure money is used for local schools. Measure EE money can be used only for a voter-approved list of student needs — needs that parallel our strike demands for the schools our students deserve, such as lowering class size and providing more nursing, library, and counseling services. All Measure EE funds are required by law to be deposited into a separate account and cannot be taken by the state or federal government. And most importantly, we will organize publicly, with a broad coalition including the mayor, to keep the district accountable.

Are we paying for Measure EE with the raise we just won?

For those of our members who own homes within LAUSD boundaries, you will pay a tiny fraction of your raise on this parcel tax — an investment well worth it when it leverages hundreds of millions of dollars from big business. The average homeowner will pay less than \$240 per year for EE; compare that to the average raise that our members received in the strike settlement, which is more than \$4,000 per year. Moreover, passing Measure EE will be an absolutely essential game-changer in fighting for future raises, class-size reduction, and more.

Will charter schools benefit from Measure EE?

Just like with Prop. 30, Prop. 55, and Prop. 98 state funding, it is illegal to bar Measure EE money from going to charters. Charters will get less than 20% of the \$500 million, commensurate with their enrollment proportion. This is why our struggle has always been two-pronged: fight for more revenue, while fighting simultaneously for a cap on charter growth, which is being considered in Sacramento right now. But, make no mistake: If we want to stop unregulated charter growth, we must get more money to our district neighborhood schools so that they are attractive places for parents to send their children. That money is EE.

Who is behind the No on EE campaign?

In this time of record profits and tax breaks for businesses, the LA Chamber of Commerce, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, and other reactionary corporate interests are waging a costly and misleading campaign against Measure EE. The Chamber of Commerce's marketing materials say that its members "remain committed to the educational success of L.A.'s youth" but the funding and lobbying against Measure EE speaks huge volumes otherwise.

Two of the most notorious corporate sectors – oil and tobacco – are part of the campaign. The chair of the anti-EE PAC is Rodney Spackman, an executive with Chevron, and BizFed hired Matt Klink, a former lobbyist and strategist for Big Oil and Big Tobacco companies, to run its campaign. For decades, oil and tobacco companies have been cutthroat about putting corporate greed ahead of common good, leading to devastating impacts on climate change and smokers' lives. Now they are being cutthroat about denying desperately needed funding for LA students – 80% of whom live in low-income communities and 90% of whom are children of color.

Why are Eli Broad and Austin Beutner part of the Yes campaign?

For years we've been calling on billionaires to donate to revenue initiatives like Measure EE instead of giving to unregulated charter expansion that undermines public education. Now Measure EE can count among its donors Eli Broad (\$250,000 to pass the measure) and Clippers owner Steve Ballmer (\$500,000). Their donations are another sign that our strike has defeated the entrenched narrative that education's problems were because of "bad" teachers and "bad" schools and that increased funding would not make a difference. As far as Beutner, as our strike showed, we struggle with the district when we need to — but when LAUSD is on the right side of an issue, we will work together. This is a once-in-a-career opportunity for local funding.