

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION H

Protect our parks, libraries, and police & fire services by joining us in protecting our Telecommunications Users' Tax.

Proposition H **protects the revenues received** from telecommunications companies and **keeps the current rate unchanged at 5%**.

Prop H is not a new tax. When the ordinance was drafted in 1970, today's mobile phones didn't even exist. This outdated law prevents Chula Vista from collecting users' tax fairly from all telecommunications providers. Some providers don't pay it at all!

95% or more of Chula Vista residents and businesses **already pay their fair share of this fee.** Prop H expands and modernizes telecommunications definitions to address state and federal changes since 1970 so every resident is treated equally.

If Prop H fails, the City could lose \$6 million per year, which currently funds:

- 50 Police Officers, or
- 57 Firefighters, or
- CVPD Traffic, Property Crimes, Family Protection and Violent Crimes Investigation Units, regular staffing for a one-engine Fire Station, and the Fire Prevention Unit, or
- Over 50% of the Public Works Department (such as park maintenance and road repairs), or
- The Animal Care Facility and all libraries - Civic Center, South Chula Vista, and Eastlake, or
- All recreation centers and all three libraries

Chula Vista's "Fiscal Health Plan" requires a **balanced budget, adequate reserves** and **pension benefit reform.** Following this Plan, the City Council cut 20% from the City's budget and 25% of its workforce since 2007. State government raids and the economic downturn forced local service and staff reductions to 1990 levels.

Losing \$6 million per year in telecommunications revenues would mean further cuts in services to close budget deficits even greater than those the city already addressed during the past three years.

Prop H protects what we receive from telecommunications companies so residents can have the services we need.

Cheryl Cox, Mayor, City of Chula Vista
Pamela Bensoussan, Councilmember, City of Chula Vista
Bertha Lopez, Teacher, Parent, and Community Volunteer
William Hall, Businessman, Former Port Commissioner