

## Carson's Sales Tax Increase

We are in unprecedeted times, most families and businesses are hurting. Yet, inexplicably the City Council on a motion by Councilmember Lula Davis-Holmes and seconded by Councilmember Jim Dear voted to INCREASE Carson's sales tax to the legal maximum 10.25% from the current 9.5%. As Mayor, I am the only person that voted NO. Join me and vote NO on Carson's sales tax increase, because it simply makes NO sense.

Families will suffer: Sales tax increases are the most regressive form of taxation and hurt those that can least afford it the most, as everything purchased that already required an additional 9.5% will now cost 10.25% more – this leaves less money for other essential purchases, especially hurting those on fixed or limited incomes.

Businesses will suffer: It doesn't take a rocket scientist to guess what will happen if Carson's sales tax is increased to 10.25%. **The sales tax in both Carson and Torrance is currently 9.5%, but if it's increased in Carson to 10.25%, shoppers will go to Torrance to pay less, causing Carson's businesses to suffer.**

Those in favor of the sales tax will undoubtedly argue it's just a small increase that's really needed. But thanks to our smart fiscal management, our reserves steadily increased every year since 2015, except this year – the worst since the great depression. In fact, despite the economic downturn, our current reserve is at an incredible 40% of our total city budget (\$87 million budget divided by \$35 million reserve). As Mayor since 2015, I am very proud of this fiscal record of achievement and having approved a balanced budget on time 5-years in a row for the first time in a generation.

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Albert Robles  
Carson Mayor