

# **LOCAL AGENCY SPECIAL TAX ACCOUNTABILITY**

Senate Bill 165 enacted the Local Agency Special Tax and Bond Accountability Act (the "Act"). The Act requires that any local special tax and local bond measure subject to voter approval contain a statement indicating the specific purposes of the special tax or bond, require that the proceeds of the special tax or bond be applied to those purposes, require the creation of an account into which the proceeds shall be deposited, and require an annual report containing specified information concerning the use of the proceeds. The Act only applies to special taxes imposed and bonds issued on or after January 1, 2001, in accordance with Sections 50075.1 and 53410 of the California Government Code.

Some of the requirements of the Act are handled upon the approval of the special tax and/or the issuance of bonds, while other requirements are handled through annual reports. This report intends to comply with Section 50075.3 and/or Section 53411 of the California Government Code, which states:

"The chief fiscal officer of the levying/issuing local agency shall file a report with its governing body no later than January 1, 2002, and at least once a year thereafter. The annual report shall contain both of the following:

- (a) The amount of funds collected and expended.
- (b) The status of any project required or authorized to be funded as identified in subdivision (a) of Section 50075.1 and/or Section 53410."

The requirements of the Act apply to the following special tax:

**Marin Emergency Radio Authority  
Measure A Special Parcel Tax  
Approved November 4, 2014**

(a) The amount of funds collected and expended:

During Fiscal Year 2015/16, \$3,588,082.21 in special taxes was collected. MERA also received additional revenue from sources other than special taxes. During Fiscal Year 2015/16, MERA expended approximately \$1,450,236.00 related to the project.

(b) The status of the project:

In addition to payment of Next Generation Radio System project planning and initial implementation expenses, the following were undertaken in Fiscal Year 2015/16 to continue Next Generation Radio System project implementation:

1. Engagement of wireless communication consultant to update project budget, undertake coverage analysis and develop a vendor RFP;
2. Engagement of financial advisory services to analyze project financing options;
3. Engagement of bond and disclosure counsels and bond trustee based on the Governing Board's determination to finance the project with bonds combined with parcel taxes;
4. Competitive sale of 2016 Special Tax Revenue Bonds for project financing; and,
5. Solicitation of vendor proposals.