DON'T BE FOOLED!
MEASURE A IS A JAIL TAX

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors have approved a new jail our county can't afford. Now they’re trying to trick voters into an increased sales tax to pay for it.

Months ago, Supervisor Dave Pine said: “We cannot afford to build and operate a large new jail without draconian cuts to essential county services...San Mateo County’s annual expenditures exceed its revenue by approximately $50 million. So where do we find another $30 million for a new jail?” Unless we stop it, their answer will be a jail tax.

No less than three reports commissioned by these same supervisors have shown there is no need for a new jail. Jails are harmful to our communities! Especially for poor people and people of color. 75% of Californians strongly agree that both the state and counties should invest in more prevention and alternatives to jail.

Despite the facts, the Supervisors want to raise the sales tax and build a new jail.

The Supervisors know San Mateo residents won’t vote for a tax increase to construct a new jail so the ballot version of Measure A says nothing about jail spending.

But the full version of Measure A makes it plain: new tax revenue will be used to lock more residents up. $30 million dollars a year will go to running the new jail—a full half of the proposed revenue from this tax!

There’s no doubt that there are many vital services that need funding. This is all the more reason to stop this jail.

Join countless others who’ve been fighting this jail for years. Join the call for more drug treatment, mental health programs, and affordable housing. Stop the Supervisors from locking up our future.

STOP THE JAIL! BEAT THE JAIL TAX! NO ON MEASURE A.