

Weather Forecast

Top Jobs | Hot Digs

Dietary Aide
Arbor Senior Apartments

Your Ad Here!
Call Now!
333-1111

Accepting Applications
Galt Pipe

See All Top Jobs

Services

- [Find a Home](#)
- [Find a Job](#)
- [Start a Subscription](#)
- [Order Photo Reprints](#)
- [Place a Classified Ad](#)
- [RSS Feeds](#)

Contact Us

[Staff Directory](#)

Office

125 N. Church St.
P.O. Box 1360
Lodi, CA 95241
(209) 369-2761
Fax: (209) 369-1084
[Map](#)

Newsroom

[E-mail](#)
(209) 369-7035
Fax: (209) 369-6706

Subscriptions

[Subscribe](#)
Problems with your subscription?
(209) 333-1400

Advertising

[E-mail](#)
(209) 369-2761
Fax: (209) 369-1084

Classifieds

[Place an ad](#)
[E-mail](#)
(209) 333-1111
Fax: (209) 369-1084

Voters say 'No' to Measure C

North San Joaquin Water Conservation District sought possible groundwater fee

By [Jordan Guinn](#)
News-Sentinel Staff Writer
Wednesday, June 9, 2010 7:15 AM PDT

[Comments \(23 comment\(s\)\)](#)

Measure C, which could have led to a fee for recharging the area's groundwater, was struck down by a 2-to-1 margin by voters Tuesday night.

With all precincts responding, 67.6 percent of voters had cast their ballots against Measure C.

"How could that be?" said Ed Steffani, manager of the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, when told of the measure's defeat. "I just don't understand."

Results (scroll to bottom of list)

The North San Joaquin district sponsored the initiative.

Steffani said he didn't know what would come next for the district, but didn't rule out the idea of trying to take another measure before the voters.

An opponent of Measure C was pleased with the outcome.

"It appears the people have won," said district board member Bryan Pilkington, who led the campaign against Measure C.

Pilkington also e-mailed a statement to the News-Sentinel in which he thanked fellow opponents of Measure C and urged the district to respect the wishes of voters.

"The people of the entire water district have won the fight against taxation without representation," he said in a statement.

Board members who supported Measure C said the money they hoped to eventually collect would be used to repair infrastructure and build delivery systems so the district could make the most of its 20,000-acre-foot allocation of wet-year water.

The district serves the city of Lodi generally east of Ham Lane, as well as Victor, Acampo, Clements and Lockeford. It was founded in 1948 and oversees 150,000 acres of agricultural land in and around Lodi. The district works to conserve stream and Mokelumne River water for both agricultural and domestic uses.

Supporters of Measure C argued that it was part of a long-term solution to replenish the area's groundwater basin. Proponents also contended that its failure could be catastrophic for area water rights. Measure C was endorsed by the Lodi City Council, the Lodi Chamber of Commerce, the Groundwater Banking Authority, and the San Joaquin Farm Bureau.

Opponents of the measure argued that it helped only a minority of growers, and the district may not even accomplish what it wanted to do. Critics also argued that the board is not to be trusted, and that approval of Measure C was equal to giving the district a blank check. "I'm happy about it," said Acampo farmer Jackson Morehead of Measure C's defeat, in a telephone call Tuesday night. "The projects (the district) wanted to

Story Tools

[Email this story](#) | [Print this story](#)

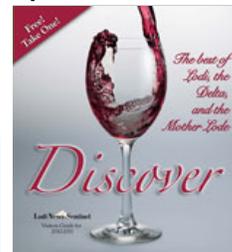
[SHARE](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Google+](#)

Indexes

[Today's Stories](#) | [Last 7 Days](#) | [Top Blogs](#)

- [David Harmer defeats Brad Goehring in District 11 congressional battle](#)
- [Voters say 'No' to Measure C](#)
- [Former Lodi mayor Alan Nakanishi finishes second in Republican race for state board](#)
- [Steve Moore re-elected San Joaquin County sheriff](#)
- [Tom Berryhill has easy win in District 14 State Senate Republican race](#)
- [Don Nottoli wins new term as Sacramento County supe](#)
- [Galt Farmers Market moved to Thursdays](#)
- [erald voters deny bond for Arcohe Union School District](#)

Special Sections



Updated! Discover

[Dining Guide](#)
[Sentinel Silver 2010](#)

Photo Reprints

[Browse Our News Photos](#)

Find Ads

[Search for Ads](#)
[Today's Print Ads](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Come and See our New Bar

Pietros

Visit Us • Make Your Reservations Today

BABY PORTRAITS

\$39

JUNE 1ST-30TH

Mary Gillespie
PHOTOGRAPHY

501 W. LODI AVE. C
LODI CA
(209) 304-0733

