

## ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE J

This November the voters of Lodi have a rare opportunity to decide who should take care of our poor, the Government or individual citizens.

The City of Lodi has established water and sewer rates at a rate that is higher than it needs to be. The current rate was set slightly higher for most citizens so that some residents can have lower rates. The City is conducting charity on your behalf.

But, before you cast your vote on Measure J ask yourself, are you willing to assist the low-income members of our community with your own charitable dollars? If you answer yes then vote NO on Measure J. But if you vote NO on Measure J, then get out your checkbook and begin writing monthly checks to a local charity. The poor in Lodi must be taken care of. If you will not do it yourself then the City of Lodi will do it for you.

If you prefer the Nanny State, if you like your government to raise fees, rates and taxes each year so that more of the poor can be taken care of with more government programs, then vote yes on Measure J.

The gift of charity should come freely from a caring and considerate person. Gifts of public money like the low-income discount create a sense of entitlement. They deprive both the recipient and the donator of the joy that is true charity.

I ask you to do the right think on November 7, 2006. Make a decision to help the poor and needy of Lodi. Make a decision to donate regularly to the local charity of your choice. Make a decision to help your fellow citizens with your own money and stop allowing the Government to do it for you. Vote NO on Measure J.

Submitted by:

/s/ John Beckman,  
Council Member