

## **Argument in Support of Measure ‘?’**

In 2000, Clayton voters supported developing a central Downtown Park near the Post Office between Main and Center Streets. The park will be a community focal point, drawing people to existing businesses and will help to revitalize our historic town center.

Citizen’s committees have surveyed residents, researched other parks, and designed simple plans including shade trees, lawn play areas, picnic tables, restrooms, walking paths and a children’s play area. In addition, the CBCA (Clayton Community & Business Association) has pledged funds to build a large gazebo for community use.

Using monies that can only be used for one-time capital improvements and a State Parks grant, the city has raised the funds to build the Downtown Park.

However, there is no money available in Clayton’s General Fund to finance on-going park maintenance without jeopardizing our balanced city budget and critical city services.

The City Council has clearly stated it will not build the park unless there are dedicated funds to operate and maintain it.

Measure ? establishes a dedicated operation and maintenance fund exclusively for the Downtown Park that would not compete with other city priorities or be subject to raids by the State.

Measure ? provides that one third of the annual operation and maintenance cost will be paid by Clayton businesses and the remaining two-thirds by residents.

Each residential parcel will pay only \$16.39 per year to maintain the Downtown Park. The tax is subject to a maximum 3% annual increase tied to the Consumer Price Index and will expire in ten years.

Clayton residents voted for a Downtown Park. To have it, we must vote to pay for its operation and maintenance or it will not be built.

Please vote Yes on Measure ?.