

## Rebuttal to the Argument Against Measure J

The opponents have their facts **WRONG**. Please study these verifiable FACTS.

*They say* Merced College has money left from a bond passed 18 years ago. **FALSE.**

**FACT: Nearly all remaining funds are constructing the Agricultural and Industrial Technology Center at Merced College to provide essential job training for local students. In fact, Merced College leveraged \$12,600,000 in state matching money that would have gone to colleges serving other communities like LA and San Francisco.**

Voting Yes on J will help Merced College continue upgrades and access additional state matching money that will otherwise go to other communities.

*They say* Merced College is losing students and funding due to poor performance. **FALSE.**

**FACT: The percentage of Merced College students completing courses, earning degrees, transferring to universities and securing employment ARE ALL ON THE RISE! The number of students attending Merced College has increased by roughly 12% since 2012, students are succeeding and state funding is not declining. However, the State provides no dedicated funding for facility improvements without local matching funds.**

Voting Yes on J helps even more Merced College students transfer to universities and get good jobs.

Many classrooms, science labs and job training facilities have not been upgraded since Merced College opened in 1962. Without Measure J, these facilities will continue to age and become more expensive to repair.

To combat unemployment we need to give students and veterans affordable access to the education they need to compete for today's high-skill jobs or transfer to universities.

**Don't believe their lies. Vote Yes on J for Merced College.**