



## **Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association**

*Promoting lower taxes since 1956*

### **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION CHARGES CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WITH THOUGHTLESS DECISION MAKING**

*"BLUE-LINES" PLACE CERTAIN PROPERTIES AT RISK OF A LOSS IN VALUE*

**SANTA BARBARA, CA** – The Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association has announced their opposition to the Santa Barbara City Council's decision to spend taxpayer money painting "blue-lines" throughout the city to warn people about the risks of global warming.

"The city hasn't thought this policy through is our belief because what they've done is inadvertently made those properties located on the wrong side of the line as being worth less than those properties that are on the right side of the blue line", said Tobe Plough, a director of the Association.

"This is almost as bad as red lining neighborhoods, which was something banks used to do to exclude entire neighborhoods from receiving loans." Plough also said real estate agents now have an obligation to disclose that a property located on the wrong side of the "blue line" could end up in the Pacific Ocean, at least according to the City Council, in the event global warming causes sea levels to rise as suggested by some scientists.

"This isn't about whether or not global warming is actually occurring and what the implications of that are, we are simply pointing out that the City Council has placed an arbitrary new value on local properties by their decision to pursue this new policy." Said Joe Armendariz, the Taxpayers Associations executive director.

The Taxpayers Association is encouraging property owners to request the County Assessor reassess their properties as a result of the City Council's decision. The necessary forms can be requested by either calling the Assessors office or by calling the Taxpayers Association.

The Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association can be contacted by calling 684.0678 or by e-mailing them at [sbcta@cox.net](mailto:sbcta@cox.net).