

## Taxpayers watchdog since 1945

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## **Our Leadership Must Address Homelessness Now**

Haney Hong, President and CEO of the San Diego County Taxpayers Association, released the following statement today:

"The Hepatitis-A outbreak in San Diego is the unfortunate result of a lack of leadership and subsequent inaction on the severe long-term issue of homelessness. This public health emergency demonstrates the need for a concerted and collaborative effort -- at all levels of government including the City, County, State, and Federal government. Our elected officials must come together immediately to solve this public health problem.

The Taxpayers Association is ready to assist with addressing the institutional question of responsibilities for each jurisdiction, if our elected leaders want the help. San Diegans pay significant taxes so our governments can manage public health resources, including mental health services and vaccinations, support to veterans and children, affordable housing, and various other services for the homeless.

It's time to stop pointing fingers. We need to focus our priorities on stopping the Hepatitis-A outbreak and meaningfully addressing homelessness."

## **ABOUT**

The <u>San Diego County Taxpayers Association</u> (@sdcta) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, dedicated to promoting accountable, cost-effective and efficient government and opposing unnecessary new taxes and fees. Founded in 1945, SDCTA has spent the past 70 years saving the region's taxpayers millions of dollars, as well as generating information to help educate the public.