Impartial Analysis of Measure S

Measure S is a citizen sponsored initiative that has qualified for the ballot to ask the voters to approve an amendment to Section 1.24.010 of the Municipal Code of the City of Half Moon Bay, to change the timing of the City’s general elections to occur in November of even-numbered years. Currently, Half Moon Bay City Council elections are conducted on the first Tuesday in November of odd-numbered years, as a result of an ordinance adopted in 1981 that was intended to consolidate elections for Half Moon Bay City Council and the Cabrillo Unified School District Board of Trustees. Subsequently, CUSD elections were moved to November of even-numbered years, along with San Mateo County, and State of California general elections. This Initiative would cause the City of Half Moon Bay’s general elections to occur in the same years as the elections of the local school district, county, and state.

The Initiative also provides that the City’s general elections would first change to even-numbered years in 2012. Under the current Municipal Code, the City’s next general election would occur in 2011. Accordingly, the Initiative would extend the terms of current City Council Members by one year, so that incumbents whose terms would otherwise expire after the November 2011 election would serve until the results of the November 2012 are certified, and incumbents whose terms would currently expire after the November 2013 election would serve until 2014.

A “Yes” vote is a vote to approve the enactment of Measure S, changing the date of future Half Moon Bay City Council elections to the first Tuesday in November of even-numbered years. A “No” vote is a vote against changing date of Half Moon Bay regular City Council elections, which currently occurs on the first Tuesday in November of odd-numbered years. Measure S would be approved if it received a simple majority of “Yes” votes.

DATED: August 23, 2010

/s/ Anthony P. Condotti,
City Attorney
City of Half Moon Bay