City Attorney’s Impartial Analysis of the Third Ballot Measure
Measure __________________________
November 6, 2018 Election
[Submitted pursuant to Elections Code section 9280]

Ballot Question:

Should the City draft and adopt an ordinance to allow and regulate retail sales of cannabis and cannabis products at up to two locations within the City?

Impartial Analysis:

This Measure is an advisory measure. It was placed on the ballot by the City Council for the City of Half Moon Bay to seek voter opinion on whether the City should allow and regulate retail sales of cannabis and cannabis products at up to two locations within the City.

“Cannabis” is also known as “marijuana.” “Cannabis products” could include edible or topical products containing cannabis or concentrated cannabis. “Retail sales” could include a storefront business, and/or a delivery-only business.

A consultant for the City estimated that potential customers within Half Moon Bay and the surrounding area could support two cannabis retail businesses within the City.

The Half Moon Bay Municipal Code currently prohibits cannabis businesses. This Measure would not change that prohibition. Instead, if it is approved, it would advise the City Council that a majority of voters support creating an exception to this ban to allow businesses to engage in retail sales of cannabis and cannabis products at up to two locations within the City.

Because this Measure is advisory only, the election results will in no manner be controlling on the City Council. But the City Council may consider the results in determining whether to pursue drafting an ordinance (a local law) to allow and regulate retail sales of cannabis. Any proposed ordinance would be considered by the City Council at a noticed public meeting.

A “Yes” vote means, in your opinion, the City should allow and regulate retail sales of cannabis and cannabis products at up to two locations within the City.

A “No” vote means, in your opinion, the City should not allow and regulate retail sales of cannabis and cannabis products at up to two locations within the City.

This Measure must receive a majority of “yes” votes to pass.

Submitted August 13, 2018

Catherine Engberg
City Attorney
City of Half Moon Bay