

## CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE \_\_

The City Council of Redwood City voted 6-1 to place Measure \_\_ on the ballot. If approved by the voters, Measure \_\_ would update and modernize several provisions of the City's Charter.

A city charter operates as a city's "constitution" and governs municipal affairs. The Redwood City Charter was first adopted in 1929, and has been amended sixteen times since then, most recently in 2011.

In 2017 and 2018, the City undertook a comprehensive review of proposed amendments to the Charter in an effort to modernize certain provisions and increase efficiency. The Charter Review Sub-Committee met five times to discuss amendments and receive public input, and the City Council reviewed proposed amendments at three meetings.

Measure \_\_ would make several changes to the Charter, including:

- *Term Limits for Boards/Commissions.* Currently there are no term limits for serving on City boards or commissions. The measure would limit a person from being appointed for more than four full consecutive terms, similar to City Council term limits.
- *Public Notice Procedures.* The measure would replace outdated and impracticable public notice procedures in the Charter, which generally require notices to be printed in an official newspaper, with provisions allowing the City Council to establish notice procedures by ordinance. This would allow notice procedures to change with evolving technology and demands of residents. The change would apply to notices related to the sale of Port property; the filing of initiative, referendum, and recall petitions; the availability of the budget for public inspection; and adoption of ordinances.
- *Budget Adoption Procedures.* The measure would replace requirements that the City Council pass motions every year to establish dates for adopting the budget, and instead establish set deadlines in the Charter. Under the change, the City Manager would be required to submit the budget to City Council 30 days before a new fiscal year begins, and the City Council would be required to adopt the budget before the beginning of a new fiscal year. This removes unnecessary procedural hurdles while preserving transparency and public input.
- *City Clerk.* Under the measure, the City Clerk would be appointed by the City Manager rather than the City Council.
- *City Manager.* The measure would eliminate the requirement that the City Manager reside in the City, in order to comply with State law.

- *Consolidation of Financial Offices.* Currently, the Charter establishes several financial offices, including Director of Finance, City Auditor, City Assessor, and City Collector. In order to streamline government, the measure would consolidate the roles of Director of Finance and City Treasurer and remove the outdated positions of Assessor and Collector. The position of City Auditor would remain.
- The measure updates several other provisions, including updating City library payment procedures, replacing gendered language with neutral language, and standardizing language.

**The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure \_\_. If you desire a copy of the full text of the measure, please call the City Clerk's office at (650) 780-7220 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.**