

City of San José

Argument In Favor Of Measure U

MEASURE U

2018 Charter Amendments - A ballot measure proposal to amend Section 407 of Article IV, Section 1001.1 of Article X, and Section 1603 of Article XVI of the San José City Charter relating to Mayor and City Councilmember salaries and aligning the Charter with State law regarding competing measures in Municipal Elections.

Signature Order:

1. Carl Guardino, President & CEO, Silicon Valley Leadership Group
2. Alma Castillo, Bookkeeper/Financial Compliance Consultant
3. Tom McEnery, Mayor, 1983-1990, City of San Jose
4. Larry Stone, Assessor, Santa Clara County
5. VanTeresa Nguyen, Small Business Owner

FILED

AUG 14 2018

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

By PN Deputy

MEASURE U

Measure U removes the Mayor and City Council's ability to approve their own salaries. Please vote Yes on U.

Currently, the San Jose City Council votes to set its own salaries based on the recommendation of the Council Salary Setting Commission. The law mandates that Council get the opportunity to vote to adjust its own pay every two years.

How does Measure U remove the Council's ability to vote pay raises for themselves every two years? By:

- Empowering the Salary Setting Commission, not politicians, to determine Council salaries;
- Allowing the Commission to adjust the base salary for the Council once every five years;
- Limiting base salary increases after each five-year adjustment only to adjustments for inflation.

San Jose's leaders should focus on community priorities, not on approving their own pay. The potential for the Council to be distracted by fights over their own salaries is real and should be avoided by taking this question out of their hands. Vote Yes on U to make this happen.

Measure U also enables the Council to fight special interests by placing a competing measure on the ballot, if approved by 2/3s of the Council.

All too often, well-funded special interests spend huge sums for professional signature gatherers to create ballot measures to avoid the regular public policy process. The latest example in San Jose was in June 2018, when out-of-town billionaires tried to rig the City's land use regulations to exempt themselves from the same rules that apply to everybody else, and give themselves fantastic profits in the process.

Measure U will give San Jose the same ability that other cities in California have — to submit any ordinance to the voters, including as an alternative to measures sponsored by special interests, with a 2/3s vote of the Council and thereby allow the people to decide any conflicts between the two.

Please vote Yes on U. SanJoseforYesonU.org

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