

Vote NO on Extending the Mayor's Term

Measure "C" asks voters to give the mayor twice as long in office before voters can hold them accountable.

Our city's two-year mayoral term exists for a reason: accountability to the voters.

As advocates for responsible groundwater management, we see firsthand how important city leadership is to critical decisions affecting our community - from groundwater sustainability to growth, infrastructure, and the long-term future of our city. The two-year mayoral term ensures that residents have regular opportunities to evaluate leadership and respond if the city is moving in the wrong direction.

If voters are unhappy with the council's decisions, they don't have to wait long to make a change. That is not instability - it is democracy working exactly as it should.

Supporters claim the city needs "stability." But what they are really asking voters to approve is less frequent accountability. Four years is a long time to wait if city leadership is not representing the will of the community. Stability should come from leaders earning the continued trust of voters - not from extending the time between elections.

Additionally, voters have already weighed in on this issue. In 2012, when the city adopted term limits, voters were presented with the option of a two-year or four-year mayoral term. The results were clear: more than 60% supported the current two-year term, while only about one-third supported a four-year mayor.

The community chose responsiveness and accountability then, and those values remain just as important today.

There is no compelling reason to weaken voter oversight of city leadership.

When it comes to local government, voters deserve more accountability - not less.

Vote NO on Measure "C".

s/Tamara Bouyer