

## Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure C

Supporters of Measure C claim the two-year mayoral term is “unfair” because the mayor must run for election more often than other councilmembers. But that misses the entire point of the two-year term.

Ridgecrest voters created this system to ensure frequent accountability to the public. Because the mayor is elected citywide and helps determine the council majority, the current structure gives voters the ability to change the direction of city leadership every two years if needed.

That isn’t an imbalance - it’s democracy working as intended.

Supporters also argue that campaigning distracts from governing. But in public service, serving your constituents well is the best campaign. If a mayor is doing the job voters expect, voters can and do re-elect them. Nothing in the current system prevents a mayor from serving longer - as long as voters support them.

Finally, proponents say a longer term would create “stability” and “continuity.” But what they are really asking voters to accept is less frequent accountability.

In 2012, Ridgecrest voters overwhelmingly chose a two-year mayoral term because they wanted city leadership to remain closely accountable to the community. Those values are just as important today.

Protect voter accountability, not politicians.

Vote NO on Measure C.

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