

~~produced are fair, balanced, and accurately reflect the consequences of the measure.~~

- The City Council *may* adopt a position on a ballot measure, i.e. vote at a City Council meeting to “support” or “oppose” a measure, but *may not* publicize such endorsement or opposition with City funds.
  - Aside from the general rule allowing the City Council, as a body, to adopt a position on a ballot measure, there is no rule prohibiting Councilmembers from expressing their personal opinions on the measure during a Council meeting (e.g. during Councilmember Comments). However, since regular City Council meetings are televised, neither Councilmembers who favor or oppose a ballot measure, or citizens who favor or oppose a ballot measure may utilize such meetings to advocate for or against a ballot measure. To do so risks violating the law by utilizing such meetings for improper ballot measure “advocacy commercials.”
  - Employees are allowed to make public appearances regarding a ballot measure during their work hours, if: (1) the appearance is authorized by his/her supervisor, (2) their comments are limited to communicating the City’s official position on the ballot measure (in the event the City Council votes to take an official position on a ballot measure) and/or (3) to provide “impartial” and “balanced” information regarding the measure.
  - Employees, while making public appearances while “on the clock” *shall not* advocate for or against the measure.
  - Employees are free to use personal time to participate in campaign activities, i.e. holidays, weekends, before/after work, but may never receive any “comp time” for such campaign activities (an employee who makes public statements while on personal time must state that (s)he is on personal time and is expressing a personal opinion).
  - Unlike City staff, elected officials have more flexibility and *may* advocate for or against a ballot measure, but may not use any city resources, e.g. stationery, postage, etc., to do so.
  - The City is authorized to expend public resources to poll residents to determine their opinions, priorities and willingness to fund particular public programs.
  - The City can research and hold hearings on a ballot measure, even after the matter is placed on the ballot.
8. The City (its officials and employees) *may not*: