



City of San Diego

Report to the Rules Committee

**Statewide Ballot Propositions
September 22, 2010**



Overview

City can take a position on a ballot proposition but it cannot use taxpayer dollars to advocate on behalf of a measure.

These criteria do not prohibit individual Councilmembers or the Mayor from taking an individual position of support or opposition to any ballot measure.

Intergovernmental Relations Department generally applied the criteria that were used as a guide in establishing the City's 2008-2010 legislative priorities:

- Does the proposal provide significant revenues or funding opportunities to the City?
- Does the proposal provide significant cost savings if enacted?
- Does the proposal enhance public safety?
- Does the proposal provide the City with greater ability or flexibility to provide municipal services to its citizens?
- Does the proposal limit or enhance local control?



Proposition 19

The Marijuana Legalization Initiative

Prop 19 will legalize various marijuana related activities including possession, cultivation and transportation for personal use for people over the age of 21. It also would allow local governments to regulate these activities and permit local governments to collect marijuana-related fees and taxes.

It is opposed by the California Police Chiefs Association, California District Attorneys Association, California Peace Officer's Association, the League of California Cities, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and the Coalition for a Drug-Free California.

IRD Recommendation: *Oppose*



Proposition 20

Congressional Redistricting

This initiative will expand the scope of the previously adopted Prop 11 redistricting commission to include congressional districts

IRD Recommendation: *No Position*

This measure does not meet the criteria for a formal city position.



Proposition 21

Vehicle License Fee for Parks

This measure proposes an \$18 increase in Vehicle License Fee to fund the state's 278 parks. This fee would raise approximately \$500 million annually. This would free up approximately \$130 million in general fund money that is used currently to fund state parks for other budget uses.

IRD Recommendation: *No Position*

This measure does not meet the criteria for a formal city position.



Proposition 22

Ban on State Borrowing from Local Governments

The Mayor and City Council have been leaders in pushing this initiative forward. The City has already taken an official **support** position on this initiative.



Proposition 23

The Suspension of AB 32

This proposition if passed would suspend AB 32 (the Global Warming Act of 2006) until statewide unemployment drops below 5.5% for four consecutive quarters. AB 32 requires that greenhouse gas emissions be cut to 1990 levels by 2020.

It should be noted, while it is unknown at this time, AB 32 has the potential to impose additional regulatory burdens and their accompanying costs on the city. No analysis exists at this time to determine what the impact of those regulations might be.

IRD Recommendation: *Oppose*



Proposition 24

Repeal of Corporate Tax Breaks

The Proposition would seek to roll back a number of tax breaks passed in 2009 to stimulate the state's economy. Those breaks include: the "single-sales factor" (SSF), loss carry-backs and tax credit sharing.

The decision to adopt SSF was bolstered by more than two dozen economist reports and scholarly journals that identified corporate tax burdens as a statistically significant factor in decisions by companies to deploy their ever more precious financial resources. This measure has the potential to negatively impact a number of key economic clusters within the City of San Diego including high tech, biotech, cleantech and other innovation clusters.

IRD Recommendation: *Oppose*



Proposition 25

Majority Voter for Legislature to Pass the Budget

This constitutional amendment lowers the threshold to pass the state budget from two-thirds to a simple majority. It also requires state legislators to forfeit their pay in years when they fail to pass the budget on time.

This measure has the potential to increase the likelihood of raids on local government funds. In the last two budgets it was the minority party that held the line against greater takes of local government money. A fast budget does not guarantee a good budget.

IRD Recommendation: *Oppose*



Proposition 26

Supermajority Vote to Pass New Taxes and Fees

Is a California constitutional amendment that will require a two-thirds supermajority vote in the legislature to pass many fees and require many local fees to be relabeled a tax and thus requiring a public vote.

This constitution amendment significantly degrades local control and makes it difficult for local governments to even seek increases for cost recovery without going to an expensive public vote.

IRD Recommendation: *Oppose*



Proposition 27

Elimination of Citizen Redistricting Commission

This initiative seeks to repeal Proposition 11 which created the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

IRD Recommendation: *No Position*

This measure does not meet the criteria for a formal city position. The City took no position on Prop 11.



Recommendations

- Proposition 19 – OPPOSE
- Proposition 20 – NO POSITION
- Proposition 21 – NO POSITION
- Proposition 22 – SUPPORT already, no additional action needed
- Proposition 23 – OPPOSE
- Proposition 24 – OPPOSE
- Proposition 25 – OPPOSE
- Proposition 26 – OPPOSE
- Proposition 27 – NO POSITION