

Argument in Favor of Measure Z

Sacramento City Charter Section 153 pertaining to the date on which elected officials take office is out of alignment with the statutory time allotted to certify the canvass of the vote as provided under California Elections Code 15372. The two statutes have been misaligned since the passage of Measure O in 1989 when the City's municipal elections were consolidated with the statewide primary and general elections.

With the passage of Measure O, the City began consolidating its elections with the County of Sacramento, and the procedures associated with consolidation would apply to City elections. Specifically, the County Registrar of Voters would follow California Elections Code which provides up to 30 days to complete and certify the canvass of the vote. This is 9 days after the statutory date for taking office, and causes the City to be out of compliance with the Charter.

Another issue is created in that candidates successful in the June primary election have different commencement dates than candidates successful in the November run-off election. As the canvass of the vote for a June election is certified in July, this allows for successful June candidates to take office before those offices participating in a November run-off. This occurred in all elections from 2008 to 2014, and inadvertently provided different term lengths for the various offices.

Voting yes on this measure would align statutes that provide for the consistent administration of City elections, allow compliance with the City Charter, and avoid inconsistent commencement dates of Sacramento's elected officials.

Larry Carr
Councilmember District 8

Shirley Concolino
City Clerk

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