Measure A would be a fundamental change to our city government that would give the Mayor more power, and will weaken the voice of our neighborhoods and our Councilmembers. This means that citizens will have less involvement in decisions that directly affect their lives. Do we need this? NO, we don’t. Strong Mayor has been rejected three times in the last decade by the courts, the City Council, and the voters. We urge you to say NO again.

Under this proposal the Mayor would propose and control the city budget, be able to fire the City Manager without cause, and have veto power over budget items and ordinances passed by the Council. The Mayor would no longer vote at City Council meetings, nor be regularly accessible to the people. Although the title mentions accountability, it does the opposite - it will attract big money to Mayoral races to buy influence and gain favor for special interests.

During this time of crisis, people in Sacramento are fighting for their lives, their homes, their jobs and businesses, and struggling to get education for their children. This measure is an unnecessary distraction that will not help our communities. This proposal has been placed on the ballot in haste and robbed our citizens of their right to participate in healthy debate and an equitable democratic process. It is a power grab, plain and simple.

This charter change will not help us through this pandemic or any other crises. It will not create or free up resources to advance city goals. Restricting the budget with a 40 million dollar earmark in the charter is unprecedented, and a promise that can’t be kept.

More power will not make the Mayor effective in solving city problems. More leadership and collaboration with the City Council will.

www.NoWayMeasureA.com

Signed:
Jeff Harris
Vice Mayor, City of Sacramento

Suzi Bakker
President, League of Women Voters

Larry Carr
Councilmember, District 8

Heather Fargo
Former Mayor, City of Sacramento

Allen W. Warren
Councilmember, District 2