



2024 Ballot Measures Discussion and Possible Positions

Mahealani Ah Yun, City Clerk
Christine Prior, Deputy City Clerk
Chantal Cotton Gaines, Deputy City Manager
Carly Shelby, Senior Assoc., Townsend Public Affairs

October 21, 2024

www.cityofpaloalto.org

Background

- City Council considered adoption of formal positions on state and local ballot initiatives presented to Palo Alto voters in 2020 and 2022
- Purpose: Provide information to Palo Altans to consider when voting and offer opportunity for City Council discussion
- Staff recommended positions are based on the City Council adopted 2024 Legislative Guidelines

November 5, 2024 Recommended Positions

1 Local Measure

- Measure D – Quarry Road Connection Project; **Recommended Position: Support**

November 5, 2024 Recommended Positions

10 Statewide Measures

Proposition	Recommended Position
Prop 2 – Education Bond	None
Prop 3 – Marriage Equality	Support
Prop 4 – Climate Bond	Support
Prop 5 – Housing Finance Voter Approval	Support
Prop 6 – Slavery	None
Prop 32 – Minimum Wage	None
Prop 33 – Local Rent Control	None
Prop 34 – Limit Major Healthcare Group’s Non-Patient Spending	None
Prop 35 – Medi-Cal Healthcare Services Funding	None
Prop 36 – Proposition 47 Reform	None

Ballot Initiatives

Proposition 3: Marriage equality (ACA 5, Low)

- Repeals unenforceable provision of the California Constitution stating that the only marriage valid or recognized in the state is that between a man and woman.

Proposition 6: Slavery (ACA 8, Willson).

- Prohibits slavery and involuntary servitude in any form, including as punishment for a crime.

Proposition 32: Minimum wage.

- Current law requires annual increases to the state minimum wage until it has reached \$15.00 per hour for all businesses. This measure extends the annual \$1.00 increases until minimum wage reaches \$18.00 per hour for all businesses. The measure allows the Governor to suspend the annual increase up to two times, in periods of General Fund deficit.



Ballot Initiatives

Proposition 33: Local Rent Control

- Repeals the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act and prohibits the state from limiting the right of cities and counties to maintain, enact, or expand residential rent-control ordinances.

Proposition 34: Effort to limit major healthcare group's non-patient spending

- Limits how certain healthcare providers spend revenues from a federal prescription drug program. If a healthcare provider has spent over \$100 million in any 10-year period on things besides direct patient care and runs a multifamily housing with more than 500 “high-severity health and safety violations”, then the provider must spend 98% of its revenues from a federal prescription drug program on direct patient care.

Ballot Initiatives

Proposition 36: Proposition 47 Reform

- Allows felony charges for possessing certain drugs (and adds fentanyl to the list of felony substances), and for thefts under \$950, with two prior drug or two prior theft convictions. Defendants who plead guilty to felony drug possession and complete treatment can have charges dismissed. Increases sentences for other specified drug and theft crimes.

Bonds

Proposition 2: Education Bond

\$10 Billion for Construction and Renovation of Schools

- \$8,500,000,000 allocated for elementary and secondary educational facilities, and
- \$1,500,000,000 allocated for community college facilities

Proposition 4: Climate Bond

- \$10 billion to finance projects relating to safe drinking water, extreme weather resilience, coastal resilience, nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands, state park creation, and clean air programs.

Other Fiscal Tools on the Ballot

Proposition 5: Housing finance - voter approval (ACA 1/ACA 10, Aguiar-Curry).

- Allows a city, county, or special district, with 55% voter approval, to incur bonded indebtedness to fund projects for affordable housing, permanent supportive housing, or public infrastructure.

Proposition 35: Provides permanent funding for Medi-Cal health care services.

- Makes existing MCO tax permanent, currently set to expire in 2026, which the state uses to pay for health care services for groups covered by the Medi-Cal program.

Recommendation

City Council review and discuss the November 5, 2024 state and local ballot measures and consider adoption of formal positions as relevant to the City of Palo Alto or desired by the City Council