

2016 AUG -4 PM 12: 58

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE C2016 BY THE CITY ATTORNEY

Currently, the City of Goleta is governed by a City Council composed of five elected councilmembers. Each year, the Council designates one of its members to serve as mayor. The mayor presides at City Council meetings and represents the City at ceremonial functions. The mayor also assists City staff by reviewing City Council agendas. Special meetings may be called by the mayor. The mayor represents Goleta on the City Selection Committee which makes specific regional appointments.

Currently the mayor receives the same compensation as other councilmembers. The mayor has no greater role in selecting members of City boards and commissions. Each councilmember appoints a planning commissioner. Members of other advisory boards are selected by the full Council.

The City Council has placed Measure C2016 on the November 8, 2016 ballot so that voters in Goleta may decide whether there shall be an elected mayor and, if so, whether the term of the elected mayor shall be two or four years.

An elected mayor is a member of the City Council with the same powers and duties as each councilmember. However, State law provides that an elected mayor, with the approval of the City Council, shall make all appointments to boards, commissions, and committees unless otherwise provided by statute. Additionally, State law provides that an elected mayor may have additional compensation, if it is approved by the City Council or the voters.

If Measure C2016 is approved by a majority of the Goleta voters, then at the municipal election in 2018, one of the three council seats with an expiring term will become the office of mayor. Voters will elect the mayor and two councilmembers at that election. Thereafter, the City Council would be composed of one elected mayor and four elected councilmembers.

Measure C2016 consists of three questions: "Shall the electors elect a mayor and four city councilmembers;" "Shall the term of office of mayor be two years;" and "Shall the term of office of mayor be four years?" A "Yes" vote on Measure C2016 is a vote for establishing an office of mayor to be elected by the voters. A "No" vote on Measure C2016 is a vote to have the voters continue to elect five councilmembers who would select one councilmember to be mayor. This Measure will only be adopted if there are more "Yes" votes than "No" votes cast at the November 8, 2016 election.

A "Yes" vote on the second question of Measure C2016 is a vote for establishing an elected mayor with a term of office of two years if Measure C2016 is passed. A "Yes" vote on the third question on Measure C2016 is a vote for establishing an elected mayor with a term of office of four years if Measure C2016 is passed. If the voters approve the office of elected mayor, the term of the office would be either two years or four years depending on whether more "Yes" votes are received on the two year question or the four years question.