

## Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure\_

The proponents don't mention **passage of Measure\_ would not only provide for direct election of the mayor, but would add dangerous new powers the Newport Beach mayor currently doesn't have**, including near complete control over the council agenda's content.

They claim their proposal would make city government more responsive when in actuality it would be less: one of the six city council districts will be represented by both a mayor and a council person, giving one district greater decision-making authority. That minimizes the voice of other council members and the residents they represent.

**The effectiveness of our current City government lies not in the power of one elected individual, but in the power of the residents making their opinions known to City Council members sharing equal decision-making authority.** It is the same method used by almost every city of our size and has served us well.

Further, the proponents state that their proposal imposes stronger term limits when the opposite is true. Under Measure\_, a person could serve two terms on council and two terms as mayor, sixteen years in all, erasing our current term limits.

In addition, a mayor with the proposed new powers would bring unwelcome power politics to Newport Beach, attracting outside interests and resulting in mayoral campaigns costing more than \$500,000.

**Don't let big campaign donors decide the future of Newport Beach, and don't let one person make the decisions on how the city is run.**

Vote No on Measure\_.

s/ Nancy Gardner  
Former Mayor, Newport Beach

s/ Homer L. Bludau  
Former Newport Beach City Manager

s/ Evelyn R. Hart  
Former Mayor, Newport Beach

s/ Clarence J. Turner  
Former Mayor, Newport Beach

s/ Seymour Beek  
Former Harbor Commissioner