

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE V

This measure was placed on the ballot by the City Council. If approved, Measure V would amend the Charter of the City of Watsonville as explained below.

The Charter was adopted in 1960 and last updated in 2014. All Charter amendments must be approved by the voters.

This Measure would amend Charter Section 900 – Boards and Commissions.

The City currently has the Board of Library Trustees and the Parks and Recreation Commission, Personnel Commission, and Planning Commission.

The roles of the Board and Commissions are set by the City Council and, in some cases, State law. As stated in the Charter, they are “intended to serve as advisory bodies to the Council and the City Manager in carrying out their respective duties.” All members of the Board and Commissions are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the City Council.

Section 900 of the Charter currently states that, in order to be eligible for appointment to a Board or Commission, “a person shall be a qualified registered elector of the City.” This means that only U.S. citizens may currently serve on the Library Board and all City Commissions.

This measure would change the citizenship requirement to a requirement that, to be considered for appointment to a Board or Commission, an individual be a resident of the City.

A “yes” vote is a vote to adopt the provisions of Measure V, and in favor of amending the Charter as summarized above.

A “no” vote is a vote against adopting the provisions of Measure V, and against amending the Charter as summarized above.

The Council has also placed Measure W on the ballot. This measure does not conflict with Measure W. Voter approval of either measure will not affect the other measure.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure V. The full text of Measure V is printed in the Voter's Information Pamphlet and available on the City of Watsonville's website at: <https://www.watsonville.gov/2511/Measures---November-5-2024>. If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the elections official's office at (831) 768-3040 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

DATED: August 12, 2024

Samantha W. Zutler, City Attorney