



U City of Huntington Beach, Charter Amendment Measure - Environmental Protection

Shall proposed Charter Amendment No. 1, which would amend the City Charter to state that City Planning and Zoning is a local, municipal affair, and require voter approval of City initiated general plan amendments or zoning changes when such items present significant and unavoidable negative impacts to the environment, be approved?

What your vote means

YES	NO
A "yes" vote on this Measure would add new Section 807 to the Charter.	A "no" vote on this measure would not add new Section 807.

For and against

FOR	AGAINST
Gracey Van Der Mark Mayor, City of Huntington Beach Pat Burns Mayor Pro Tempore, City of Huntington Beach Casey McKeon City Council Member, City of Huntington Beach	Patrick Brenden Former City Councilmember Barbara Delgleize Former Mayor Connie Boardman Former Mayor Debbie Cook Former Mayor of HB



Ballot Measures-U

**Full Text of Measure U
City of Huntington Beach**

EXHIBIT A
CHARTER AMENDMENT
PROPOSED ADDITIONS SHOWN AS UNDERLINED
PROPOSED DELETIONS SHOWN AS ~~STRIKETHROUGH~~

Charter Amendment Measure No. 1

Section 807 . ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

No City initiated general plan amendment or zoning change may be approved by the City where the related environmental review (EIR) finds the same proposed general plan update or zoning change presents significant and unavoidable negative impacts to the environment, without first receiving approval by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the electors voting on such proposition at a general or special election at which such proposition is submitted. City Planning and Zoning is a local, municipal affair, beyond the reach of State control or interference, a local activity reserved for the City and its people, not the State.

**Impartial Analysis
City of Huntington Beach
Measure U**

This proposed Charter amendment, referred to as "Environmental Protection," would require voter approval of certain general plan amendments or zoning changes in Huntington Beach that present significant negative impact to the City's environment.

If adopted, this Measure would amend the Huntington Beach City Charter to add new Section 807 entitled "Environmental Protection." New Section 807 would require voter approval of City-initiated general plan amendments or zoning changes, which may include zoning changes for commercial or housing development, where the related environmental review contemplated by the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") finds that the proposed general plan or zoning changes would present "significant and unavoidable" negative environmental impacts in the City. This Measure would also amend the Charter to expressly state that City Planning and Zoning is a "municipal affair," beyond the reach of State control or interference, and is a local activity reserved for the City and its people, not the State.

A "yes" vote on this Measure would add new Section 807 to the Charter; a "no" vote on this measure would not add new Section 807.



Ballot Measures-U

Argument in Favor of Measure U

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS FOR HUNTINGTON BEACH: VOTE "YES" TO PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT AND TO ASSERT OUR LOCAL CONTROL OVER DEVELOPMENT!!!

Passing this Charter Amendment is critical to the ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION of Huntington Beach – to protect our precious beaches, to protect our pristine wetlands and their unique wildlife, to protect against an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, to protect our groundwater supply, to protect our clean air and water, to protect our infrastructure, to protect against increasing traffic and congestion. We must protect our City from high-density over-development of Huntington Beach!!!

This Charter Amendment requires City initiated General Plan and Zoning Amendments that present a "substantial and unavoidable" negative impact to our City's environment to go to a VOTE OF THE PEOPLE. With this Charter Amendment, residents will have a say in the future of the City's development, rather than simply leaving those important decisions (which have lasting impacts on our City for generations to come) to a simple vote of City Council. Some things, like this, are too important to not ask the voters of Huntington Beach for their input.

By voting "yes" on this proposed Charter Amendment, the people of Huntington Beach gain the power to protect Huntington Beach's environment from rapid over-development by legislators, builders, and developers.

Those who are opposed to this proposal use scare tactics and fearmongering falsely claiming that the State or State laws "mandate" high-density development, or that if the City does not comply, it will face litigation, fees, fines, penalties. From a recent outcome in the State's lawsuit against the City over high-density housing, we know this is not true. In fact, to date, no fees, fines, or penalties have been imposed on the City for failing to update its zoning to accommodate high-density development. Voters, PROTECT OUR CITY – VOTE "YES."

s/ Gracey Van Der Mark
Mayor, City of Huntington Beach

s/ Pat Burns
Mayor Pro Tempore, City of Huntington Beach

s/ Casey McKeon
City Council Member, City of Huntington Beach

Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure U

The proponents of this measure continue to spread disinformation. In 1990, the voters of Huntington Beach passed a Charter Amendment – Measure C to protect our beaches and parks.

The proponents' professed concerns about clean air, water and greenhouse gases, are yet another ploy to mislead. They dissolved the Environmental Board, scrapped the sustainability master plan, and have failed to take any action to help decrease traffic or air pollution. They refuse to pass a Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address rising sea levels that will bring salt-water intrusion into our freshwater wells.

It should be noted proponents of this amendment are the same Council members that gave away untold millions of taxpayer dollars in their Airshow Settlement and who tried to outsource our library, transferring public taxpayer money to private for-profit companies. Why trust them with yet another poorly crafted Charter Amendment likely to create more litigation?

Make no mistake, this measure will give up local control to Sacramento and let **Gavin Newsom's** policies dictate what gets built in Huntington Beach.

Voting No, maintains local control by allowing the City Council to determine development, not Sacramento.

In 2018 when the Council failed to comply with State Laws and had to pay **\$4.5million** in attorney's fees. Failure to comply comes with a cost; this measure will create that failure.

It's time to restore common sense to Huntington Beach government: Vote **No** on Measure U.

s/ Debbie Cook
Leader of Measure C

s/ Judith Huck
Board Secretary, Amigos de Bolsa Chica

s/ Connie Boardman
Former Mayor



Ballot Measures-U

Argument Against Measure U

Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure U

Vote NO to Protect Local Governance

This proposed Charter Amendment has been brought to the voters by the same council majority that established a book banning committee, wanted to privatize the libraries, and negotiated a scandalous multi-million-dollar secret legal settlement that required a citizen lawsuit to be made public.

Don't be fooled by the supposed concern for the environment expressed by the council members who placed this on the ballot. If they cared about our environment, the Environmental Board wouldn't have been dissolved, our Sustainability Master Plan would have been completed, and the city would have a Climate Action Plan.

This measure will:

Affect ALL land in Huntington Beach:

A new and costly process will be required when commercial and industrial zoning needs to be changed to better meet community needs. This measure is not business friendly and will delay community improvements.

Undermine Representative Democracy:

We elect officials to make informed decisions on our behalf. While public input is vital, excessive referendums on technical matters risk eroding the effectiveness of our council members. This measure shifts power away from our elected officials and towards special interests.

Create More Red Tape and Unnecessary Costs:

This amendment imposes significant administrative and legal burdens on our city. The costs associated with organizing frequent elections and defending decisions in court will divert resources from essential services and programs that benefit all residents. Requiring elections for zoning changes and General Plan updates will cost the city millions at a time when we are facing budget deficits.

Let's preserve the ability of our elected officials to govern effectively, conserve our fiscal resources and reject this Measure.

s/ Patrick Brenden
Former City Councilmember

s/ Barbara Delgleize
Former Mayor

s/ Connie Boardman
Former Mayor

s/ Debbie Cook
Former Mayor of HB

Councilmembers Kalmick, Moser and Bolton didn't vote for this ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION for the City - and, they didn't vote to give the VOTERS A CHOICE in proposed General Plan and Zoning changes that would certainly lead to MASSIVE HIGH-DENSITY DEVELOPMENT. This is wrong!

This City belongs to the people of Huntington Beach. Mayor Gracey Van Der Mark, Tony Strickland, Casey McKeon, and Pat Burns voted to give YOU, the people of this great City, this Ballot Measure so that YOU have a choice of whether the City should adopt General Plans and Zoning changes that might lead to "substantial and unavoidable" long-term or permanent damage to our environment. Of course, these plan and zoning decisions that massively and sometimes permanently impact our environment and the quality of life in our City, should involve the vote of people and are a matter of local control - not for developers or the State itself.

Vote YES on this Ballot Measure - PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT!!!

s/ Gracey Van Der Mark
Mayor, City of Huntington Beach

s/ Casey McKeon
City Councilmember, City of Huntington Beach

s/ Pat Burns
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Huntington Beach