

Argument In Favor Of Measure C

A vote for Measure C is a vote for efficiency in government, increased citizen oversight, and recognition that our youth must be a part of ending youth violence in Santa Barbara.

A “yes” vote formally consolidates two five-person commissions, the Parks Commission and the Recreation Commission, into one seven-person commission to save money and staff time. It will also mean there are seven citizens that can hold city staff accountable for the condition of our parks and the results of our senior and youth recreation programs.

A “yes” vote allows a youth leader to inform the commission and vote on matters of direct concern for children and teens. There have been incredible young leaders emerging from our youth council for many years, which are making a positive example for a population that is in real trouble.

A “yes” vote will allow the City Council to appoint a youth representative to one of the seven seats of the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Council will not be forced to appoint one if no one between the age of 16 and 18, and all financial decision made by the body go on to the Council for final approval.

Teens today are confronted with a host of responsibilities and challenges. We ask them to avoid drugs, pregnancy, and gangs. We need recreation programs that help keep our kids out of trouble. To do this effectively, we need a youth member that can speak for them on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

These changes have been requested by both the Youth Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission and now we have brought them to you the voters for approval.

Das Williams

City Councilmember, Liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission

Roger Horton

City Councilmember, Chair, Committee on Youth and Children