

CITY OF BERKELEY MEASURE II

MEASURE II: Shall the City of Berkeley Charter be amended to give the City until December 31st of the third year following the decennial census to adopt new council districts that are as nearly equal in population as feasible?
Financial Implications: None.

YES

NO

CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE II

AMENDMENT TO SECTION 9 OF THE BERKELEY CITY CHARTER RELATED TO EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR COMPLETING THE REDISTRICTING OF CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS

Currently, the City is required to adopt revised council district boundaries by the end of the year after each decennial census. In part because of disputes about the validity of the 2000 census, late issuance of revised census data and a referendum, the City was not able to meet this deadline after the 2000 census. Beginning with the 2010 decennial census, this Charter amendment would increase the time available for redistricting by extending the deadline to December 31st of the third year following the year in which the census is taken, i.e., December 31, 2013, for the 2010 decennial census. This Charter amendment would not prohibit the City from completing its redistricting sooner, however, if it is able to do so.

Financial Implications

None.

s/ZACH COWAN

Acting Berkeley City Attorney

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE II

Join a unanimous Berkeley City Council in voting YES ON MEASURE II.

Currently, following each Decennial Federal Census, the Berkeley City Charter requires the City Council to revise council district boundaries to equalize their population by the year's end. After the 2000 census, the City was unable to meet this one-year redistricting deadline due to disputes about the validity of the census, late issuance of revised census data, and a referendum that extended the process.

In order, to allow the City and the public sufficient time to thoroughly vet the 2010 census data before adjusting district boundaries, Measure II proposes to amend the Charter to *simply extend* the deadline to the end of the *third* year following the year in which the census is taken. This timetable would allow more time for a thorough public redistricting process and completion of the final districts well before the 2014 Council district elections.

Measure II will *not* prohibit the City from completing its redistricting sooner if it is able to do so. However it will allow more time if necessary.

It's unanimous – Vote Yes on Measure II.

s/Tom Bates

Mayor, City of Berkeley

s/Max Anderson

Berkeley City Council

s/Betty Olds

Berkeley City Council

s/Kriss Worthington

Berkeley City Council

s/Gordon Wozniak

City Councilmember, City of Berkeley

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE II WAS SUBMITTED.