

Measure “C” – Argument in Favor

The City’s current personnel system has not been significantly updated since 1964 when Charter Section 75 and 76.1 were first approved by the voters.

Due to ambiguous and confusing provisions in the current Charter related to the hiring process for the Police Chief and Fire Chief, there is a need to clarify the City Manager’s authority to select “appointive officer positions” which include all City department heads and employees in the offices of the City Manager and City Attorney. Support for this measure simply clarifies the current practice. The City Manager has historically been responsible for hiring all Department Heads, including the Police Chief and Fire Chief. Unlike other department heads, however, the two Chiefs once hired are considered classified employees with the right to seek Civil Service Commission review of any proposed discipline or termination.

Measure C does not change any of the practices identified above. No classified employees are impacted by this proposal and the proposed Measure will not affect civil service protections for the Police Chief and Fire Chief after they are appointed.

City bargaining group representatives and an internal Charter review Task Force have supported clarifying this charter provision.

A Yes vote on “Measure C” provides clarity within the language of the City Charter and avoids potential for confusion in the future.

/s/ Patricia Thompson, City Manager, Retired
/s/ Jill Techel, Mayor, City of Napa
/s/ Travis Stanley, President/CEO Napa Chamber of Commerce
/s/ Scott Sedgley, Retired Fire Captain, Councilmember
/s/ John Glaser