

CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE Z AMENDMENT TO THE MEASURE Y YOUTH FUNDING PROGRAM CITY OF POMONA

Background:

At the November 5, 2024 Municipal Election, Measure Y was approved, an initiative City Charter amendment requiring that 10% of the City's annual unrestricted general purpose revenues be allocated to a Pomona Children and Youth Fund ("Fund"), administered through a City Department of Children and Youth ("Department"). The Fund may only be spent on eligible programs and services identified in Measure Y for children, youth and young adults up to 24 years old.

Eligible programs/services include violence prevention, alternatives to incarceration, workforce development, parent/guardian support, education, well-being, environmental health, recreation, immigrant support, and housing support. Ineligible programs/services include law enforcement, detention, court, probation, Fire Department or services primarily benefiting adults over 24 years old.

Measure Y requires the Department to operate under an Executive Director hired by a Council-appointed 15-member Accountability Board ("Board"). Eight Board members must be between 15 and 24 years old.

This Measure:

Measure Z was placed on the ballot by unanimous City Council vote and would amend Measure Y as follows:

The Department would remain and operate under the City Manager's office. However, the funding source for the Fund would change from 10% of the City's annual unrestricted general purpose revenues to 10% of the annual revenues from the City's Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax.

The youth service/program goals and eligible/ineligible uses of this funding would remain the same as under Measure Y. A portion of the Fund may be used for Department administrative costs and to evaluate program results. This Department would be headed by a Department Director hired through the City, rather than an Executive Director hired directly by the Board.

The Board would remain in effect and be empowered to review applications for funding, propose to the City Council spending from the Fund through a list of grants to be awarded to community-based organizations and qualifying agencies, provide input on Strategic Investment Plans for youth funding, facilitate annual program evaluations, and review financial reports to confirm spending is consistent with this Measure. A Strategic Investment Plan will be based upon Community Needs Assessment prepared by the Department in coordination with the Board to identify youth programs/services to be financed by the Fund. The City Council may either approve or disapprove all of the Board's proposals, but may not "line item" amend or modify them.

This Measure would require subsequent voter approval to amend its sections which (i) establish the Fund and the Department, (ii) set the Sales Tax funding source, (iii) set the program/service goals of the Fund and (iv) define "eligible" and "ineligible" uses for the Fund. All other sections of this Measure could be amended by the City Council by ordinance and without an election.

A "yes" vote on Measure Z will approve Measure Z.

A "no" vote on Measure Z will not approve Measure Z.

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City Attorney

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure Z. If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the City's elections official at (909) 620-2311 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.