

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE O

Measure O will allow Oakland voters to elect candidates supported by a majority of voters without needing costly local elections in June when voter turnout is extremely low.

This change will:

RAISE VOTER TURNOUT

SAVE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TAX DOLLARS EACH ELECTION YEAR, and

REDUCE MUDSLINGING IN LONG, DRAWN-OUT CAMPAIGNS

In the last June election, only a third (33%) of eligible voters in Oakland voted. Voter turnout in November elections (when national/state races are decided) is MUCH HIGHER than June elections. In communities of color, November turnout has been TWICE AS HIGH as June turnout.

Holding two elections instead of one is costly to taxpayers. Local June elections can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, money that could be better spent on other city services.

Holding two elections instead of one also is costly to candidates, giving an advantage to the candidate who can raise more money, undermining campaign finance reform.

Measure O implements Instant Runoff Voting to achieve the worthy goal of electing majority winners -- except we finish in ONE ELECTION, NOT TWO.

Voters indicate their favorite candidate, just like now, but at the same time they also pick their runoff choices, ranking them 1, 2, 3. This eliminates the need for a separate June election.

By eliminating low turnout June elections for local races, Oakland will elect officeholders who win a popular majority in one November election, and can save hundreds of thousands of tax dollars.

Measure O will make our elections MORE EFFICIENT and LESS EXPENSIVE. It's supported by the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, and over a dozen current and former Oakland elected officials. It was sponsored by Council members NANCY NADEL and PAT KERNIGHAN and approved for the ballot by the Oakland City Council.

Vote YES on Measure O.

More information: www.oaklandIRV.org

s/John Russo

Oakland City Attorney

s/Wilson Riles

former City Councilmember

s/Corinne Jan

CEO, Family Bridges

s/Ramon Rodriguez

Chair, Spanish Speaking Citizens Foundation

s/Dick Spees

former City Councilmember

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE O
WAS SUBMITTED.