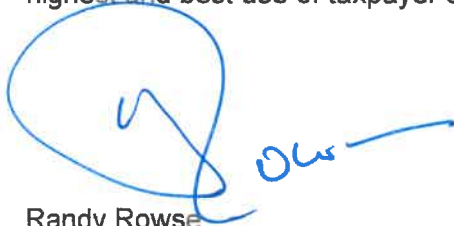


Contrary to the opposition piece filed by the Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association, this measure enables the flexibility necessary to most successfully and efficiently negotiate contracts in today's bidding environment. It provides the City Council with the authority to use contract procurement methods that are widely accepted among California public agencies to deliver responsive and cost-effective capital projects. Allowing broader procurement methods would provide the City the ability to prioritize the use of local labor in the Requests for Proposals.

Procurement practices such as "Best Value", "Design-Build", "Simplified Procurement" (for smaller dollar Public Works projects), and "Construction Manager at Risk" (CMAR) are all valid and widely used procurement measures under the California Public Contracting Code. They are universally accepted by the construction industry as well as trade organizations as being both fair and competitive.

The "Simplified Procurement" method for smaller projects, i.e. less than \$500,000, would favor local, small business contractors because it streamlines the bid process to allow City's public works needs to be quickly met through drawing from a list of registered contractors and using abbreviated construction documents.

The proposed ballot measure allows the City to more readily deliver the highest quality project for the best value and provides a better atmosphere for local contractors most familiar with Santa Barbara. Given the city construction and improvement projects in the present queue, it is essential that we have the optimum tools for choosing the most qualified bidders, ensuring the highest and best use of taxpayer dollars.



Randy Rowse
Mayor, City of Santa Barbara

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