Argument Against Measure P

We all support the right of community members to vote on key issues. However, we don't support the right of partisans on any issue to mislead and confuse voters.

Dozens of people we know had the impression -- put forward by signature-gatherers -- that their signature would put the issue of desalination on the ballot. Those gathering signatures didn't explain that the measure would simply cause a vote on whether or not there should be a future vote on desalination. This clearly created confusion.

Many of the proponents ignored the fact that the citizens' right to vote on desalination has already been adopted by a unanimous vote of the City Council. The supporters of this duplicate measure were so insistent in their desire to muddy the waters about desalination that they didn't mind wasting at least $70,000 of local taxpayer dollars to place this measure on the ballot even though it mirrors existing law. (The minimum taxpayer cost for putting this measure on the ballot is estimated at $70,000 by the County Clerk.)

The proponents tried to justify their waste by claiming this measure is needed because the City Council might repeal the existing ordinance. There are no Councilmembers interested in repealing the ordinance, and there are no candidates for City Council who do not support a community vote on desalination. The prospect of City Council repeal of the requirement for a community vote is an invitation to mistrust the City Council at the time when the Council has kept faith with the community.

A vote for this measure is endorsing a waste of your money...and it will not have any impact on the issue of desalination or on your right to vote on desalination.

Please Vote No on Measure P !