A YES vote on Measure P will GUARANTEE THE RIGHT TO VOTE ON DESALINATION.

A YES vote will NOT cost the City more money as the costs of this election have already been incurred.

The argument against Measure P fails to discuss the provisions of Measure P itself. Instead it is a personal attack on the intelligence of City voters and on the integrity of over a hundred volunteers who worked hard to gather the thousands of signatures to qualify Measure P for the ballot.

We trust that Santa Cruz voters are smart enough to know what they signed.

The estimated cost of a desalination plant has increased since 2005 to $116 million today, excluding costs to operate, repair, and finance the plant. There is NO DOUBT that these costs will raise our water bills.

There is also NO DOUBT that cheaper and greener alternatives deserve serious consideration. These include:

**Water transfers between districts

**Purifying wastewater to recharge aquifers

**A water-neutral growth policy, such as used by Soquel Creek Water District since 2003

**Water conservation strategies for large landscapes such as golf courses.

The pros and cons of desalination will be analyzed extensively in 2013. What is important now is to GUARANTEE THE RIGHT TO VOTE on this issue in the future.

ONLY MEASURE P WILL GUARANTEE THE RIGHT TO VOTE ON DESALINATION because it will place a provision in the City Charter that cannot be changed solely by elected officials.

As former Santa Cruz mayors, we urge YES on Measure P.