MEASURE ____ IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT

The measure placed on the ballot by the Council would replace the existing charter, significantly reducing its length and complexity. No change is proposed in the City's boundaries, name, powers, personnel system, property or obligations. All ordinances, resolutions, and policies consistent with the new charter will remain in effect. Existing litigation would be unaffected.

The City would have a council-manager form of government, with the City Manager running the City's day-to-day operations, supervising all City employees. There would be a full-time directly elected Mayor and seven member Council, elected by ward. The Mayor's duties would be reduced. The Mayor would preside at Council Meetings, but vote only to break a tie, veto a matter or appoint and set compensation of the City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk and for Commission and Committee appointments. The Mayor appoints members of Council Committees, is chief spokesperson and ceremonial head of government, represents the City in intergovernmental relations, and executes ordinances and contracts.

The Council will continue as the City's primary policy-making body, and with the Mayor ensure municipal functions are carried out for public health and safety, and the City's fiscal integrity. Most Council actions require a simple majority, but only five votes can override the Mayor's veto. The Mayor's and Council's compensation will be set by ordinance, after a public hearing and input from an advisory commission. Any ordinance takes effect at commencement of council terms following the next regular election. The Mayor and Council must follow state and local conflict of interest codes. None may be a City employee.

The proposed charter would change the City Attorney and City Clerk from elective to appointive officials hired and their compensation set by the City Council.

Existing City departments would continue; the City Manager can establish new departments with Council approval. The charter requires a municipal police department. Council must also provide for community development, finance, fire, emergency medical services, information technology, library, parks, recreation, personnel, public works, water and wastewater.

Existing Commissions and Committees would continue in effect, including the Library Board of Trustees, Personnel Board (who serve without compensation), and the Water Board (compensation set after public hearing).

The charter requires an annual budget and capital improvement plan be adopted after public hearing and an annual independent audit.

City elections would move to November of even-numbered years, consolidated with the statewide general election. Existing terms would be extended one year to facilitate transition. Council members would continue to be elected by ward, for staggered terms of four years. Boundary adjustments would comply with state and federal law. The citizens' powers of initiative, referendum and recall would be as provided in state law.

The Council will provide for periodic Charter review to identify potential amendments enhancing clarity, efficiency, and principles of council-manager form of government. Charter amendments shall be made pursuant to state law.

A "YES" VOTE MEANS you want San Bernardino to adopt the proposed charter.

A "NO" VOTE MEANS you do not want San Bernardino to adopt the proposed charter.

THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS AN IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE ____. IF YOU DESIRE A COPY OF THE PROPOSED CHARTER, PLEASE CALL THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT _____, AND A COPY WILL BE MAILED AT NO COST TO YOU.

Dated: August 10, 2016

Kimberly Half Barlow, Special Counsel