

Statement in favor of the Proposed Amendment to Fresno County Charter, Section 16

The proposed amendment to Section 16 of the Fresno County Charter would update the requirements for the Director of Public Works to match current educational and professional requirements.

Voters originally approved Fresno County's Charter in 1933; the requirement that the Director of Public Works be qualified both as a civil engineer and a surveyor has been included in Section 16 of the Charter since 1954. Since that time, the educational and professional requirements for licensure in the two occupations have changed. In the past, the education and licensure as a civil engineer qualified a person to perform the functions of a professional surveyor. Since the 1980's, the surveyor field has developed into a specialized field of study with separate licensure requirements. Under state law, civil engineers licensed prior to 1982 may perform the functions of a professional surveyor, but it is becoming increasingly rare for individuals to have been certified civil engineers for that long or to have obtained licensure in both professional occupations. This severely restricts the pool of qualified applicants for the position of the County Director of Public Works.

Removing the requirement that the Director of Public Works be a licensed surveyor will have no negative impact on the ability of that person to perform the duties of the Director. The County already employs a class of deputy surveyors who perform the day-to-day surveying tasks required of the department. In addition, the proposed amendment allows the Director to be the County Surveyor if that person does possess both civil engineering and surveying licensures.

We urge a yes vote on Measure ___ allowing the Director of Public Works to appoint a County Surveyor, if the Director is not a licensed surveyor.

SIGNED

DATE

Sal Quintero, 3rd District, Chairman,
Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Feb. 20, 2018

Andreas Borgeas, 2nd District, Vice-Chairman,
Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Feb. 20, 2018

Brian Pacheco, 1st District, Member,
Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Feb. 20, 2018

Ernest Buddy Mendes, 4th District, Member,
Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Feb. 20, 2018

Nathan Magsig, 5th District, Member,
Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Feb. 20, 2018

ATTEST:
BERNICE E. SEIDEL
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors
County of Fresno, State of California

By: [Signature]
FRESNO COUNTY CLERK
DEPUTY

MAR 13 2018

FILED