

# LA FORWARD VOTER GUIDE

Your **thoughtful, comprehensive,** and **progressive** introduction to this November's ballot.

From a **new generation** of leaders working to create a Los Angeles that's **fair, vibrant,** and **sustainable.**

**Learn more** about LA Forward, **sign up** for updates, **and download the full guide**, with complete explanations at [LosAngelesForward.org](http://LosAngelesForward.org)

 /LosAngelesForward

 @losangelesfwd  @LAForward

## LA COUNTY

**A** **YES**

Funding for parks across Los Angeles

**M** **YES**

Funding to build out a world-class transit system - rail, bus, bike and pedestrian

## LA CITY

**HHH** **YES**

Bonds to fund housing for the homeless

**JJJ** **YES**

Affordable housing & good, local jobs as part of new development

**RRR** **NO** Department of Water and Power governance changes

**SSS** **YES** Allow airport police into LAPD pension system

## LA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**CC** **YES** Bonds to repair, upgrade and build on LA Community College campuses

## SANTA MONICA

**GS** **YES** Advisory vote to support investment in local public schools

**GSH** **YES** Fund community services, affordable housing, school improvement

**V** **YES** Funding for Santa Monica College

**LV** **NO** Extremist NIMBY ban on most new housing and mixed-use unless voters approve it at the ballot box

**51** YES

Bond to Support K-14 Educational Facilities

**52** YES

Strengthen Medi-Cal

**55** YES

Extend Higher-Income Tax to Fund Education and Healthcare

**53** NO

Attack on Local Control and Public Infrastructure

**54** NO

Legislative Proceeding Rules Change

**56** YES

Cigarette tax to reduce health costs

**57** YES

Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act

**58** YES

Repeal the Ban on Bilingual Education

**60** NO

Mandate for Condoms

**65** NO

Sabotage Plastic Bags

**59** YES

Instruct Elected Reps to push for repeal of Citizens United

**61** YES

Lower Prices of State Prescription Drug Purchases

**62** YES

End the Death Penalty

**66** NO

Speed up the Death Penalty

**63** YES

Gun Violence Prevention

**64** YES

Legalize Marijuana

**67** YES

Ban Carry-out Plastic Grocery Bags

**NO**

**YES**

**Join us and change the world, starting in Los Angeles.** You will be hearing a lot more from us soon.

**Learn more** about LA Forward, **sign up** for updates, **and download the full guide**, with complete explanations at [LosAngelesForward.org](http://LosAngelesForward.org)

## Our View

We're a group of young leaders who love and believe in Los Angeles.

We love the new city that's emerging, of CicLAVia, of mass transit, bike lanes, and pedestrian plazas. We love the LA of food trucks and farmers' markets, guerilla gardening and the return of nature to LA River.

We know there's plenty of unfinished business too, inequities that we have to overcome if we're going to live up to our values and our progressive reputation.

The new vibrant LA must be a city for all people, not just a privileged few.

We know there's work to be done when the vendor selling you fresh fruit can have her cart impounded and destroyed by the police for no good reason, where the rent is too damn high and it's basically impossible to buy a home.

So many of us, whether freelancers or Uber drivers, struggling actors or artists or below-the-line workers, nannies or gardeners or adjunct professors, are living in the insecure gig economy, one medical bill away from crisis. We need policies that work for us, starting with fair regulations and a 21st century social safety net.

It's time for a long overdue investment in our public spaces, schools, housing, and infrastructure. They've been starved since the conservative revolt of the 1970s and we're all worse off for it, as public services accessible to all people, not just the well-off have declined in quality and increased in price.

It's time to overturn the paradigm of criminalization and overpolicing, to begin investing in communities and restorative justice, to realize the immense human potential we've locked away as a result of racial redlining and the school-to-prison pipeline.

It's time to make sure that the most disadvantaged communities gain justice, that all Angelenos share in the city's prosperity, that developers create community benefits to go along with their new construction.

It's time to free up the entrepreneurial energies of people starting and running small businesses, reducing red tape, while ensuring that wealthy corporations can't get away with paying pennies in property taxes.

It's time to ensure government works for all of us, not in service of career politicians and entrenched bureaucracies afraid to take bold initiatives.

It's time to turn away from the NIMBY, "not-in-my-backyard" mentality which fights the new city that's emerging, not giving a damn for the well-being of the people who don't already own homes, who need transit and can't afford cars, who draw energy from the city's growing street life.

It's time for a forward-looking generation to take its rightful place at the helm.

**It's time to take LA Forward.**

## You're Part of This

Because we get it. You want to do good. Improve your community. But you don't know how to get involved. It's hard to figure out ways to plug in politically, make a difference in your community.

LA Forward can help.

We'll do all the nitty-gritty research on the policies that are being debated in the city and all the politicians who are pushing them. When you check out our website or get our emails, you'll see quick bits of info that tell you exactly what's going on. And for every piece of info, there'll be an action you can take to help make our city a better place.

And it's not just online. Our meetups will provide the opportunity to discuss the issues that affect us, get to know one another, and build the kind of relationships, public stories, and skills we need to make change a reality.

We're just getting started, so you'll be hearing more from us soon. Sign up to learn more on our website.

Join us and change the world, starting in Los Angeles.

The “Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks, Open Space, Beaches, Rivers Protection, and Water Conservation Measure (Measure A),” would impose an annual parcel tax of 1.5 cent per square-foot of developed property for the **development and maintenance of parks, open spaces, rivers, and beaches throughout Los Angeles County.** Measure A would replace expiring sources of voter-approved park funding (Proposition A) passed in 1992 and 1996. It is estimated that this measure would raise \$94 million per year. Over half of L.A. County’s 10 million residents live in areas with a “high need” or “very high need” for more parks or open space. Measure A **prioritizes these underserved communities.**

Measure A is the smart thing to do and it is long overdue. Funding for park development and maintenance often takes a back seat to other important programs such as emergency services. Measure A will create a **steady, independent source of funding that will prevent decision-makers from sacrificing parks in order to maintain or augment other essential services.**

Making sure that parks are adequately funded, indefinitely, is a big deal because **parks and greenways consistently improve physical and mental health, according to extensive research on the topic.** They encourage people to exercise, reduce stress, and provide outlets for the informal socializing that strengthens communities.

Voting “yes” on Measure A is an easy choice. It’s a relatively small price to pay for something of such incredible value. **The average Los Angeles home is 1,800 square feet. At 1,800 ft., under Measure A, a homeowner would pay only an additional \$27.00 per year.** This tax is even less significant, in terms of direct, imposed costs, when taking into consideration that parks tend to positively impact real estate values.

Even better, Measure A funding will be guided by a detailed plan that emerged through a comprehensive, county-wide assessment. This means that the county, numerous cities,

### SUPPORTERS

Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters (LALCV)  
Advancement Project California  
Sierra Club  
National Resources Defense Council (NRDC)  
Heal the Bay  
Los Angeles County Democratic Party  
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl  
Supervisor Hilda Solis  
Cities of Baldwin Park, Glendale, La Puente, Santa Monica, South Gate  
Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Los Angeles Times

### OPPONENTS

Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce  
Regional Chamber of Commerce San Gabriel Valley  
Republican Party of Los Angeles County

coalitions and community organizations have done their homework and provided strong recommendations for where Measure A funding would be most impactful and effective.

**Measure A will bring more beautiful parks and open spaces to LA County; it's great for your community and easy on your wallet.**

**M** YES

LA COUNTY MEASURE M: FUNDING TO BUILD OUT A WORLD-CLASS TRANSIT SYSTEM – RAIL, BUS, BIKE & PEDESTRIAN

Measure M — the “Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan” — is a small tax increase to fund the construction and maintenance of a world-class transit system across Los Angeles. Specifically, it will extend the half-cent sales tax passed under Measure R in 2008 and add a new half-cent sales tax. The estimated cost per household is between \$25 and \$65 annually. **In return, we'll bring in enough money to transform how people move around L.A. and liberate us from the tyranny of driving in consistently terrible traffic.** Not to mention the hours of time we lose in our daily commutes and the incredible amount of pollution generated that is fouling our air and warming our planet.

There will finally be resources to initiate and accelerate the construction of projects like the Wilshire Subway to Westwood, a rail link from the Valley to Westwood underneath the Sepulveda Pass, the northward extension of the Crenshaw Line to West Hollywood, the extension of the Gold Line to Claremont (as well as Whittier and South El Monte in the Southeast of LA County), the extension of the Green Line to Torrance, and new connections at LAX. There'll be additional light-rail projects in the Valley and the South East LA Gateway cities as well.

All that rail, as impressive as it seems, isn't enough. Thankfully, community advocates have done a good job of making sure that Metro is prioritizing the infrastructure and policies that truly complete a world-class transit system and make it work.

**First, more than 25% of the money will go to maintenance and operating costs. It's no use building a great system if you can't afford to operate it.** Other cities have discovered this the hard way. L.A. is being smart in ensuring that there's a dedicated source of income for on-going expenses.

**Second, there will finally be dedicated funding for first/last mile connections to transit.** Safe, quick and easy ways to get

to transit stops are vital if we want people to actually get out of their cars. So Metro's committed to money for bike and pedestrian infrastructure. There's money set aside for projects like LA River Bike Path and LA Safe Routes to School. Another 16% goes to municipalities so they can improve local transit infrastructure through sidewalk repair, bike lanes, urban greening, and more.

**Third, Measure M takes major strides toward creating equitable outcomes so disadvantaged communities are included in the benefits of transit and not left out. It will invest heavily in the bus lines that are the workhorses of the system and on which lower-income communities of color disproportionately rely.** More money for new and better buses, more frequent service, and investments in dedicated buslines along Vermont and Lincoln Avenues, and between N. Hollywood and Pasadena are just as important as new rail lines.

We note that the sales tax isn't as regressive as it may seem. Core costs like food, rent, utilities, transit, medicines and doctor visits aren't taxed under California law. Plus, there'll be new subsidies for low-income transit-dependent riders and for students. Measure M will also set aside of 10% of construction jobs for disadvantaged workers. New-ish Metro CEO Phil Washington has talked the good talk on the equity front. **We will need to follow up and make sure that Metro makes smart, fair decisions and is consistently working to help, not hurt, disadvantaged communities through its real estate, planning, and hiring practices. In particular, it needs to scale up its anti-displacement programs and investments as part of its Long-Range Transportation Plan.**

We don't like the inclusion of some highway projects in Measure M, like one going through the High Desert Corridor, but on balance this is a very well thought out, forward-looking plan. Plus, there's flexibility to adjust program funding in response to future needs and opportunities. CEO Washington has been steering the ship prudently and thoughtfully since coming aboard. An "Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee" will be empowered to conduct annual audits, available to the public, and to review progress and make reports to the Metro Board.

**Measure M is worth supporting – it will make public transportation more accessible, convenient, and affordable, while creating more than 450k new jobs, reducing pollution, and prioritizing equity in important new ways.**

#### **SUPPORTERS**

**Transit Equity Groups:** Investing in Place, LA County Bicycle Coalition, LA Walks

**Environmentalists:** Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters (LA LCV), Climate Resolve, Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

#### **OPPONENTS**

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers

Association

Fight for the Soul of the Cities

**Community:** AARP California, NAACP, LA Voice, One LA, Justice in Aging

**Political:** Los Angeles County Democratic Party, Stonewall Democratic Club, East Area Progressive Democrats, Avance Democratic Club

**Labor:** Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, UFCW 770, SEIU 72, CWA Southern California

**Business:** LA Area Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles Business Council, Los Angeles County Business Federation (BizFed), Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce

**Local Government:** City of Los Angeles, Montebello, South Pasadena, West Hollywood, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Los Angeles Times

Beverly Hills

South Bay cities: Carson, Torrance, Rancho Palos Verdes, and Signal Hill

South East LA County cities: Santa Fe Springs, Commerce, and Norwalk

**HHH**

**YES**

## LA CITY MEASURE HHH: BONDS TO FUND HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS

Measure HHH is a \$1.2 billion bond measure intended to **reduce chronic homelessness in Los Angeles**. Proceeds will pay for supportive housing for homeless and chronically homeless households; affordable housing for very low-income residents at risk of homelessness; temporary shelters, storage, and showers; and associated infrastructure for facilities, such as sidewalks and utilities. This isn't some sort of backdoor deal for developers—the city will distribute the proceeds to private developers only through a competitive bidding process. In fact, bond proceeds will only pay for a portion of the construction costs with the rest coming from private, state, and federal sources.

**This bond will cost the average homeowner \$44.31 per year** in the City of Los Angeles using an ad valorem tax on residential and commercial properties (at an estimated annual tax rate of \$9.48 per \$100,000 of assessed value). This also covers an administrative and citizens oversight committee. It's a relatively small price to pay to tackle the challenge of homelessness in the city.

Why vote yes? Los Angeles has the largest homeless population in the nation—and the problem is getting worse. Providing affordable housing to homeless individuals with onsite wrap-around services (permanent supportive housing) is a proven method of ending homelessness for individuals with a long history of homelessness and a disabling condition that makes it difficult to retain housing, like mental illness, chronic conditions, or substance abuse. Even better, several studies have shown that supportive housing results in **long-term cost savings to the community** as tenants in supportive housing

significantly decrease their use of expensive homeless shelters, emergency rooms, hospitals, jails and prisons. In fact, by funding affordable housing for very low-income residents, the proceeds will also **prevent homelessness among vulnerable households.**

With an average cost of only \$44/year for most Angelenos, these tried-and-true methods are our best bet to help the homeless suffering in L.A. Some people may argue that substance abusers shouldn't receive subsidized housing, but such an ungenerous standpoint is also short-sighted: it's so much harder to get sober while homeless, and everyone benefits when homelessness is reduced.

The consensus from across community, labor, business and government groups is overwhelming and so is the need. **We urge voters to vote YES on Measure HHH, so LA can start housing the people who need it the most.**

### **SUPPORTERS**

Community groups (98 of them), including United Way, ACT-LA, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, California Community Foundation, Central American Resource Center, Downtown Women's Center, Inner City Law Center, Inquilinos Unidos, KIWA, LA Family Housing, LA Kitchen, LAANE, LA Voice, Little Tokyo Service Center, Los Angeles Community Action Network, Safe Place for Youth, Shelter Partnership, Inc., Skid Row Housing Trust, Southeast Asian Community Alliance, St. Joseph Center, Strategic Actions for a Just Economy, Thai CDC, TRUST South LA, Venice Community Housing, Venice Family Clinic, Watts Labor Community Action Committee, Weingart Center for Homelessness, Women Organizing Resource Knowledge & Services (WORKS)

**Elected Officials:** Mayor Eric Garcetti; LA City Councilmembers Herb Wesson, Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Jose Huizar, Mike Bonin, Mitch Englander, Paul Koretz, Mitch O'Farrell; LA County Supervisors Sheila Kuehl, Mark Ridley-Thomas, Hilda Solis

**Business:** LA Chamber of Commerce, Central City Association, Westside Council of Chambers of Commerce; Valley Industry and Commerce Association

**Labor:** Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, many individual unions

**Political:** Los Angeles County Democratic Party, Avance Democratic Club, Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley, Green Party of Los Angeles County

### **OPPONENTS**

Los Angeles County Republican Party  
Jack Humphreville, Citywatch LA  
Jay Handal, Co-Chair,  
Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates  
Mark Ryavec, Venice Stakeholders Association

Measure JJJ aims to create more affordable housing and good, local jobs by leveraging the wave of development sweeping the city, especially along transit corridors, where most new housing has catered towards wealthier residents who are less likely to ride public transit.

Measure JJJ requires developers who are seeking a zone change or plan amendment to set aside up to 25% of their units as affordable to low-income people, including at least 5% for extremely low-income residents. Or they can pay into the city's Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which subsidizes construction of 100% affordable housing projects by nonprofit developers.

JJJ also requires that 30% of the construction workers hired reside in the surrounding community, including a proportion for those folks who are overcoming challenging circumstances — veterans, single parents, and those who have previously been foster youth, homeless, or incarcerated. This creates a career pipeline into the middle class for people who most need it. These jobs have to meet prevailing wage standards too. **Isn't it only fair that long-time community members benefit from all the construction that's happening in their neighborhoods?** It makes economic sense too. According to recent studies, lower-income people who live near transit and can commute quickly to job centers have higher levels of social mobility.

Opponents claim that JJJ will unfairly burden developers and curtail the building of housing units that L.A. badly needs. But we believe that **requiring developers to create affordable housing is sensible because developers are reaping tremendous windfall profits from zone changes with no extra effort on their part.** Moreover, L.A. has some of the lowest fees for developers of any major city in the United States. JJJ will neither stop new developments nor accelerate their creation. Indeed, the latest academic research suggests that **affordability requirements do not hinder building of new housing,** as earlier economic studies claimed.

Even if fewer new housing units were built, it would be a worthwhile trade-off. A recent study from leading urban economists at UC Berkeley shows that in the short-term, market-rate construction doesn't solve local affordability problems and can exacerbate them. It's only over long-term and at the regional level that more market-rate construction moves the needle. So it makes sense to prioritize affordable housing construction and good jobs for local folks in "hot areas" like Boyle Heights, Koreatown, the South Figueroa corridor, and along the Los Angeles River

JJJ also includes an incentive-program for more density and fewer parking requirements near transit stops in exchange for more affordable housing and local jobs. There is currently no way to mandate inclusion of affordable housing in developments near transit or anywhere else thanks to the state court decision banning the practice and Gov. Brown’s veto of this “Palmer Fix.” That leaves incentive programs and cases where developers need discretionary approval from the City as the only ways to capture the value generated from rising real estate prices in hot areas, especially near transit.

The City Council has refused to take action on this front for years. Promising measures to leverage new development for more affordable housing have been bottled up in committee indefinitely. If JJJ fails, it will be difficult to pass something similar in concept due to NIMBY and developer opposition.

**This is our big shot to begin to address the housing crisis in a meaningful way without any financial cost to the city’s government and taxpayers.**

**If Prop. JJJ had been enacted three years ago, Los Angeles would have 5,522 additional affordable homes and 11,656 more jobs for local residents.**

**We believe that the voters will declare that they are ready to do their part by voting YES on HHH—it makes sense to ensure that developers do theirs, too, by voting yes on JJJ as well.**

#### **SUPPORTERS**

**More than 50 community and social justice groups:** Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE), ACLU, California Alliance for Retired Americans – Los Angeles, Central American Resource Center (CARECEN), Coalition for Economic Survival, Community Coalition, Community Health Councils, Chinatown Community for Equitable Development (CCED), Inner City Struggle, LA Voice, National Council of Jewish Women Los Angeles (NCJW-LA), Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles County, North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry, Public Counsel, SCOPE/AGENDA, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) of Southern California, Southeast Asian Community Alliance (SEACA), Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE), TRUST South LA, VoteVets, Youth Policy Institute

**Transit:** Alliance for Community Transit – Los Angeles (ACT-LA), LA County Bicycle Coalition, Multicultural Communities for Mobility (MCM)

**Community Development:** East LA Community Corporation (ELACC), Esperanza Community Housing

#### **OPPONENTS**

Coalition to Preserve LA (the NIMBY group behind the March 2017 NII initiative)  
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce  
Valley Industry and Commerce Association

Corporation, Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation, Southern California Association for Non-Profit Housing Developers (SCANPH) Thai CDC,

**Environment:** Climate Resolve, Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC), Pacoima Beautiful, Northeast Valley Green Alliance, Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters (LALCV)

**Labor:** LA County Federation of Labor, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 11, Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, SEIU locals, UFCW 770, Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE), Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance (KIWA), Pilipino Worker Center

**Business:** Beverly Hills/Greater Los Angeles Alliance of Realtors

**Political:** Los Angeles County Democratic Party, Miracle Mile Democratic Club

**RRR** **NO**

## MEASURE RRR: DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER GOVERNANCE CHANGES

Measure RRR is a very complicated and not-so-clear-cut decision to make about our city-owned utility, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). It offers a complex slew of changes to the DWP's governance structure, terms of employment, strategic planning requirements, and a new mandate for monthly billing.

Measure RRR amends the City Charter to 1) add qualification requirements, stipends and removal protections for DWP Board; 2) expand Board to seven members; 3) require DWP prepare four-year Strategic Plans for Council and Mayoral approval; 4) modify DWP's contracting, rate-setting and other authority; 5) permit future alternatives to existing civil service standards for DWP employees through collective bargaining; and 6) require monthly billing.

We oppose RRR because the risky components of this measure outweigh some of its commonsense reforms. This initiative takes away the City Council and Mayor's direct oversight of DWP, which reduces our power as voters. The utility not only has major impact on finances by setting rates, its policies are also critical for coping with the drought and reducing our city's contribution to global warming. Under the prodding of City Council members, DWP has become more aggressive in the face of the challenges. We worry about backsliding if the utility becomes more autonomous.

This move toward autonomy is worrisome for another reason. It may make it easier to privatize DWP in the future.

Less oversight from elected officials, the creation of a paid board of directors, and the end of inclusion in the city's civil service all would create momentum for a total breakaway. We can't afford that. Privatization of utilities, even troubled ones, is a course that's been tried and has failed before. When electricity prices shot upwards in 2000-2001 as a result of de-regulation, DWP's 1.4 million customers remained unaffected. Water bills are also lower than in places like Santa Monica, Pasadena, San Francisco, and San Diego.

Opening the door to end the Civil Service system would be a mistake for many reasons. It would prevent easy transfers among the city's many departments. These are important to enabling efficient distribution of skills and opportunities among public employees. Competitive, merit-based hiring and promotion also minimizes patronage and political spoils systems.

DWP is far from perfect and its management needs a major upgrade. Bad customer service, deteriorating infrastructure, and a poorly implemented new billing system are all cause for concern. But the solution is more and better oversight from our elected representatives, which Measure RRR would make impracticable.

Instead of handing off the power to run this monopoly to a less accountable, more autonomous set of paid board members and union leaders, City Hall needs to take responsibility for steering this vital public enterprise back on the right track.

#### **SUPPORTERS**

Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC)  
Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters (LALCV)  
Valley Industry & Commerce Association (VICA)  
Dr. Frederick Pickel, Ratepayer Advocate  
Pacoima Beautiful  
Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE)  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 18  
(IBEW 18)  
Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Council President Herb Wesson  
Los Angeles Times

#### **OPPONENTS**

Consumer Watchdog  
Food and Water Watch  
Southern California Watershed Alliance  
Ed Begley, Jr., Environmentalist  
Erwin Chemerinsky, Former Chair, Los Angeles Charter  
Reform Commission  
Laura N. Chick, Los Angeles City Controller (retired)  
Former City Councilmembers such as Nate Holden (D),  
Richard Alarcon (D), Greig Smith (R)  
L.A. City Public Employee unions - AFSCME, SEIU 721

This is the least important of all the measures on the ballot, but we dove in and investigated to make sure we got it right and there are no unintended negative consequences.

Measure SSS will move new hires at the LA Airport Police Department into the same pension plan as other police and fire department employees in the city and will allow existing officers at the Airport Police Department to buy into the police and fire department pension system. If Measure SSS passes, all the police officers in the city's separate police departments will be members of the same pension fund — this would allow the city to shift personnel around between departments, which would be otherwise be difficult due to incompatible retirement benefits. The annual cost of providing future retirement benefits will be higher than if the officers stayed in their existing pension system — the funds would come out of the Airports Department, rather than the General Fund. Current officers would have to pay an estimated \$20,000 for each year they have served to buy into the new pension system.

We support SSS because of the additional flexibility it gives for personnel and personnel management and the fact that any additional expense is born by the Airports Department, not the city's general operating budget.

The LA Times points out that if Measure SSS were to pass, it may be the first step in a merger between the airport police and LAPD — a step that shouldn't be taken without a public discussion about the wisdom of such a move. We think that public deliberation can happen if a merger is actually ever proposed. There will be more than enough time to discuss the implications then.

Unions representing each police force have not taken a position on the matter. Our research did not uncover any other notable support or opposition.



YES

## MEASURE CC: BONDS FOR BUILDING LA COMMUNITY COLLEGES, LIBRARIES, SCIENCE LABS & MORE

Building and maintaining public facilities is a top priority of ours. It's one of the most important ways we can promote a fairer, more prosperous society.

More funding for LA community colleges makes especially good sense now as we're witnessing for-profit colleges flounder on their fraudulent business practices. Public, two year schools like the nine that our district has across the city — e.g. Trade Tech, East LA Community College, Valley — are a pipeline for opportunity. They send tens of thousands of graduates to UCLA, USC, CSUN, Cal State LA and other four-year schools, where young people can get ahead. Many are the first in their families to have the chance to get a higher education and community colleges are the most affordable option out there, with relatively low tuition and no need to live "on campus."

We're confident that the \$3.3 billion will be well spent, thanks to independent audits, citizen oversight, and local-spending guarantees.

The money will be used to upgrade facilities and safety systems, remove lead paint and asbestos, repair gas and lines, and acquire and construct new buildings.

### **SUPPORTERS**

Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Many elected officials including Jackie Goldberg (former State Assemblymember and City Councilmember)

Los Angeles Times, which had previously criticized the board's mismanagement but is now confident that the money is both needed AND will be managed well

LA Community College Board

### **OPPONENTS**

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

## SANTA MONICA MEASURE LV: EXTREMIST NIMBY MEASURE TO BAN MOST NEW HOUSING AND MIXED-USE PROJECTS

The L.U.V.E. initiative would drastically hinder the development of new housing in Santa Monica, both market-rate and affordable. That's a major problem because the city is one of the region's biggest job centers. The reason our highways are clogged going to the Westside every morning, from the Valley, the Southbay, and the Eastside, is because people who work on the Westside can't afford to live there. More housing will reduce commutes and over the long-run, lead to lower prices, as long as we preserve the existing stock of affordable housing. Measure LV encourages sprawl and undercuts sustainability.

Below is an excellent analysis from our friends at the Southern California Association of Nonprofit Housing (SCANPH) that we wholeheartedly share:

*The L.U.V.E. initiative, like the Neighborhood Integrity Initiative (on LA's March 2017 ballot), will severely restrict the private sector from increasing the supply of housing thus leading to higher housing costs, more overcrowding, and an increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness. L.U.V.E. would require most projects to go through both the regular entitlement review process, and a new up or down vote by the ENTIRE electorate in Santa Monica. The initiative would require the developer to pay for the vote, in addition to whatever costs are required to mount a campaign for the project. The end result would be that only the most well-funded developers would be able to fund the vote and the campaign.*

*Similarly, extending the entitlement process and including a new public vote adds time and uncertainty into the process. While we understand that the L.U.V.E. initiative includes some exclusions for 100% affordable housing projects, on balance, we believe there are still a number of areas (i.e. zone changes and major modifications from the zoning code for practical reasons) where L.U.V.E. would apply thus increasing costs, time and the challenges of developing affordable housing.*

*Initiatives that add cost and complexity to projects are not the answer to addressing the regional housing affordability crisis or to reducing traffic and congestion. Other cities in California that have passed similar initiatives have fallen way behind in providing their regional fair share of housing and have had to defend themselves from numerous lawsuits. In those communities, housing cost pressures have continued to impact affordability and the cities incur additional legal fees with the inevitable challenges to the restrictive ordinances.*

**It is for all of these reasons that LA Forward opposes Measure LV.**

## **SUPPORTERS**

Residocracy  
SMA.r.t (Santa Monica Architects for a Responsible Tomorrow)  
Friends of Sunset Park Board of Directors  
Northeast Neighbors Board of Directors  
Pico Neighborhood Association Board of Directors  
Santa Monica Mid City Neighbors  
Wilshire-Montana Neighborhood Coalition Board of Directors

## **OPPONENTS**

Housing and Opportunity for a Modern Economy (HOME)  
Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters (LALCV)  
Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing (SCANPH)  
Santa Monica Democratic Club  
League of Women Voters of Santa Monica  
Santa Monica Firefighters, Local 1109  
Community for Excellent Public Schools (CEPS)  
UNITE HERE Local 11  
Coalition of Santa Monica City Employees  
Sierra Club  
Los Angeles County Democratic Party  
American Planning Association, Los Angeles section  
American Institute of Architects, LA Chapter  
Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce  
Santa Monica Downtown Neighborhood Association  
Santa Monica Democratic Club  
Child Care & Early Education Task Force  
Ben Allen, California State Senate  
Sheila Kuehl, L.A. County Board of Supervisors  
Judy Abdo, Former Co-Chair, Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights  
Katharine King, Co-Chair, Climate Action Santa Monica  
Joan Ling, Former Executive Director, Community Corporation of Santa Monica



## PROP 51: BOND TO SUPPORT K-14 EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

**California's K-12 public schools and colleges used to be among the best in the country.** Then the conservative tax revolt, led by Howard Jarvis, succeeded in passing **Prop 13** in 1978, which decimated funding for our world-class educational institutions. The result was **overcrowded, crumbling classrooms** and a general decline in quality. Recent years have seen a movement to reverse this trend. **We need to keep investing in our schools so they can become incubators of our democracy and economy once again.**

**Prop 51, along with Prop 55, is a step in the right direction for California's public schools.** It would authorize \$9 billion in state bonds to pay for school construction, maintenance, and improvements. There's a huge deficit to make up—statewide, schools have a massive backlog of deferred maintenance; it'll cost \$2 billion to bring them up to current safety requirements alone.

Prop 51 is important because bonds are the primary way the state funds school construction and repair, shouldering approximately half the cost with local districts bearing the remainder.

Funding from the 2006 bond was depleted by 2012 and the needs are only growing. **Repairs get more expensive the longer we wait and the problems deepen.** Voters shouldn't have to make this decision every decade. Legislators should be responsible, but the policies enacted by the tax revolt movement prevent that. **So it's up to us to make sure all kids are able to learn in safe, well-maintained classrooms.**

**LA Forward recommends a YES vote on Prop 51.**

## PROP 52: STRENGTHEN MEDI-CAL



A bit of background before we get to ‘why yes’: For a state to receive federal Medicaid funds (in California, Medicaid is known as “Medi-Cal”), it must contribute a matching part of its own money. In 2009, a new program was created under which California hospitals began paying a fee to help the state obtain funds for Medi-Cal. **This program has helped California receive an additional \$2 billion per year in federal dollars** to help hospitals meet the needs for Medi-Cal patients. However, **California has diverted some of the money from hospitals** toward the state general fund (although the money was still spent on healthcare.) Prop 52 will add language to the California Constitution making the program permanent and requiring 2/3 vote of the Legislature to repeal. Additionally, Prop 52 will require voter approval to change the use of the funds.

So this is about **protecting and strengthening our healthcare no matter which party is in power in the State Legislature.** Those in favor of Prop 52 argue that the program is vulnerable unless enshrined in the constitution — it’s entirely possible the program could either not be renewed or additional funds will be siphoned off.

Those against strengthening Medi-Cal argue that making budgetary decisions via the ballot box is inherently risky because it prevents the legislature from making decisions based on current needs. Another argument against the proposition is that it guarantees that the funds raised by the tax are spent on hospitals and not on other Medi-Cal needs (such as preventative care).

Ultimately, hospital care is a crucial and expensive aspect of Medi-Cal services. It is important to protect our hospitals and to make sure the funds are there, so it is imperative for California hospitals to continue paying this fee.

## SUPPORTERS

California Democratic Party  
California School Boards  
Association  
California Taxpayers Association  
California Retired Teachers  
Association  
California Republican Party  
CA Labor Federation  
Bend the Arc: A Jewish  
Partnership for Justice

## OPPONENTS

California Taxpayers Action  
Network  
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers  
Association

**We recommend that voters  
vote YES on Prop 52**  
(but don't lose sleep over it.)

## PROP 53: ATTACK ON LOCAL CONTROL AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Prop 53 is one of several slight-of-hand initiatives placed on this November's ballot by **wealthy special interests trying to camouflage their motives.** Funded by a right-wing millionaire, it mandates a statewide vote by electorate on projects that cost more than \$2 billion.

This is an attempt to **reduce the ability of local communities to invest in much needed infrastructure. It takes away local control of spending.** If LA wants to build out its transit system, Central Valley citizens gain a vote on whether the project should



## SUPPORTERS

CA Libertarian Party  
CA Republican Party  
Charles Munger  
Dean Cortopassi

## OPPONENTS

CA Chamber of Commerce  
CA Hospital Association

happen. That doesn't make sense. People from other regions don't stand to benefit and may be biased in opposition.

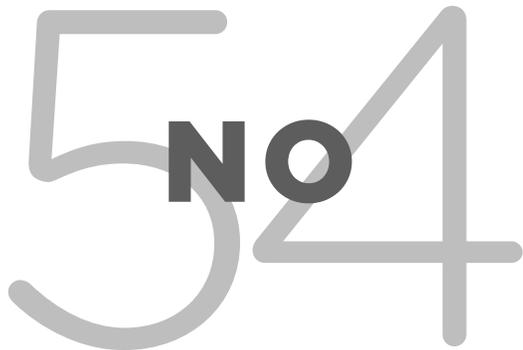
There are **no exceptions for natural disasters** like wildfires and earthquakes, and ballot initiatives can only occur every other November **so impacted areas may have to wait up to two years just to get authorization to begin rebuilding.**

State and local legislators should be making these decisions. That's why we elect them to represent us. **Prop 53 will it more difficult to spend on major infrastructure projects, whether they involve water, public education or transportation.**

The main proponent and funder is Dean Cortopassi, the former CEO of Stanislaus Food Products. He's a right-wing millionaire with an ideological aversion to public infrastructure and a special interest in preventing certain water projects.

## **LA Forward strongly recommends a No vote on Prop 53.**

CA Nurses Association  
CA Democratic Party  
CA Environmental Justice Alliance  
CA Labor Federation  
CA League of Conservation of Voters  
CA Professional Firefighters Community Coalition  
Courage Campaign  
Los Angeles Times and all the state's major newspapers  
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF)



## **PROP 54: LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDING RULES CHANGE**

Prop 54 may seem like a good idea on the surface, but it is not what it seems. It's another **sneaky attempt by right-wing groups to limit the influence of progressives in Sacramento and empower corporate interests.**

### **SUPPORTERS**

CA Chamber of Commerce  
CA Libertarian Party

It mandates that all bills be published for at least 72 hours before legislators can vote on them. It also legalizes the practice of using audio and video of legislators in political ads.

This increased transparency comes with **starkly negative real-world consequences**, however noble it might seem in the abstract.

Over the last decade, **California led the nation with progressive accomplishments on issues ranging as widely as climate change, healthcare, workers' rights, LGBT equality and gun violence prevention.** In former legislator Jackie Goldberg's assessment, **most of these "would have been defeated by the deluge of lobbyist money and influence if they had 72 hours to organize."** Some of the best bills in recent years have come together only in the last few days of the legislative session, like the landmark climate bills passed in August of this year. Progressives won only by out-maneuvering corporate interests like Big Oil.

Likewise, special interests such as Big Pharma will take advantage of the ability to use video of legislators to create new types of misleading attack ads by taking on-the-floor discussions wildly out of context. The negative real-world results far outweigh any theoretical virtues of this initiative.

It's no surprise, then, that **Prop 54 is the brainchild of Charlie Munger, right-wing billionaire** and California's top political donor. It's been solely funded by him. This comes after a history of spending \$26.7 million to fight both progressive legislation and elected officials.

CA Republican Party  
CA Taxpayers Association  
Charles Munger  
Common Cause  
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association  
LA Chamber of Commerce  
League of Women Voters of California  
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce  
Valley Industry and Commerce Association

#### **OPPONENTS**

CA Democratic Party  
CA Environmental Justice Alliance Action  
CA Labor Federation  
California Nurses Association  
Community Coalition  
Jackie Goldberg (retired Assemblymember)

**LA Forward urges a NO vote on Prop 54.**

## PROP 55: EXTEND HIGHER-INCOME TAX TO FUND EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE



In 2012, as California's economy was on the upturn, voters decided that higher income residents of the state ought to pay a little more in taxes to help restore funds to education and vital services that had been cut in the recession. Prop. 55 asks that the wealthiest Californians continue to contribute their share for 12 more years.

Prop. 55 also lowers the sales tax, which means more money in every Californian's pocket.

**Where does the money go?** To our schools. It will help **add new teachers** in the classrooms, **bring back arts and music programs**, **make community college more affordable**, and **expand health care access for kids**.

LA Forward strongly supports Prop. 55 because the children of California need it. **Our schools are still recovering from the recession, having suffered drastic cuts to programs for K-12 education**, community colleges, and health care. We need to give our kids a boost, not leave them vulnerable to more budget cuts.

Opponents say that Prop. 55 will extend a tax that was meant to be temporary, a tax that we don't need because California is enjoying a budget surplus, and a tax that targets small businesses.

But here's the reality: Many of us have and want to start families and need good schools with quality program offerings. We want health care for all children, not just those who can afford it. We also want college options that are affordable and that will help us avoid student debt. Prop 30 is expiring as promised and as voters we have a real choice about what to do tax. Allowing the sales tax to decline while keeping up the tax on higher incomes is the smart choice that will allow us to keep investing in our underfunded public schools.

**For these reasons, we strongly urge a YES vote on Prop 55.**

## SUPPORTERS

Alliance of Californians for  
Community Empowerment  
(ACCE Action)  
CA Calls  
CA Environmental Justice  
Alliance Action  
CA Hospital Association  
CA Labor Federation  
CA League of Conservation  
Voters  
CA Library Association  
CA Medical Association  
CA Pan-Ethnic Health Net  
CA State Firefighters'  
Association

CA State PTA  
Chinese Progressive Association -  
San Francisco  
Consumer Federation of California  
Dolores Huerta Foundation  
Ella Baker Center for Human  
Rights  
League of Women Voters of  
California  
Los Angeles Alliance for a New  
Economy  
Los Angeles Community College  
District  
Middle Class Taxpayers  
Association

Mi Familia Vota  
Millions Voter Project  
Planned Parenthood Affiliates  
of California  
PICO CA (People Improving  
Communities Through  
Organizing) and LA Voice  
Sacramento Bee  
Tom Steyer  
and hundreds more  
community organizations,  
public officials, school boards,  
and community college  
districts statewide.

## OPPONENTS

CA Chamber of Commerce  
CA Libertarian Party  
CA Republican Party  
CA Taxpayers Association  
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers  
Association  
National Federation of  
Independent Business  
Los Angeles Times



56  
**YES**

## PROP 56: CIGARETTE TAX TO REDUCE HEALTH COSTS

LA Forward supports Prop 56, which would raise the tax on cigarettes by \$2.00 per pack. This will create additional revenue for health care services for low-income Californians and lead to lower smoking rates. The state tax on cigarettes currently sits at \$0.87 per pack and has not increased since 1998. A reliance on sales taxes can easily

become regressive, but in this case the policy **will reduce the massive cost to the public of treating smoking-induced illness**. It will also create **a dedicated stream of money for important health programs that benefit people with lower incomes**.

The negative health impacts of smoking are well-documented; an increased cigarette tax will likely result in lower smoking rates, especially among teenagers and low-income populations that are more sensitive to price increases. Finally, additional revenue from the tax increase will go towards medical research, smoking cessation and prevention programs, and early childhood education.

**Given the health benefits of lower smoking rates and the additional revenue flowing to public health programs, LA Forward believes that passage of Prop 56 will make the State a healthier place.**

#### **SUPPORTERS**

American Cancer Society	EqualityCA	Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce
American Heart Association	Filipino Advocates for Justice	Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)
American Lung Association	Greenlining Institute	Million Voters Project
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles	HONOR PAC	NAACP, California
Asian American Small Business PAC	Inland Empire African American Chamber of Commerce	NextGen California / Tom Steyer
CA Environmental Justice Alliance Action	InnerCity Struggle	PICO California
California Labor Federation and 25+ local labor councils	Korean Community Center of the East Bay	San Francisco AIDS Foundation
CA League of Conservation Voters	Korean Churches for Community Development (KCCD)	Southern California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
CA Pan-Ethnic Health Network	Latino Coalition for a Healthy California	
Children's Defense Fund	Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce	
Courage Campaign		

#### **OPPONENTS**

CA Black Chamber of Commerce  
CA Retailers Association  
CA State Fraternal Order of Police  
CA Taxpayers Association and various county taxpayers associations  
Hispanic Leadership Fund  
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association  
Philip Morris USA Inc.  
R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company

## **PROP 57: PUBLIC SAFETY AND REHABILITATION ACT**



**Prop 57 would help fix CA's broken criminal justice system — which discriminates against low-income people of color — and address the issue of overcrowding in prisons by allowing people charged with nonviolent felonies, who served their primary offense's full term, to be considered for early parole.**

Prop 57 would prevent prosecutors from trying children (14 years and younger) as adults. Instead, the child would have a hearing first with a juvenile court judge. Prosecutors are increasingly sentencing youth in adult courts, despite huge drops in youth crime. While California experienced a 55% drop in youth felony arrests, young people charged as adults increased by 23% from 2003 to 2015. Prop 57 would allow children 14 years old and younger to have a hearing in juvenile delinquency court BEFORE they can be prosecuted and tried as adults.

The measure would also **reduce prison spending** and help **provide rehabilitation for nonviolent offenders**. California's prisons are beyond overcrowded, with some reaching 300% capacity. Prop 57 builds on the success of Prop 47, passed in 2014, and is part of movement to push back deep failings of our criminal justice system. We are locking up far too many people and the impact is disproportionately felt in communities of color. The truth is that most offenders can become integral members of society again, if we provide the right context and opportunities. We can't afford to waste the potential of so many people, especially those who are not yet adults.

**The correctional system of California is broken, and Prop 57 is a solid step towards fixing it.**

## SUPPORTERS

Asian Americans Advancing Justice  
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)  
Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice  
Gov. Jerry Brown  
CA Calls  
CA Democratic Party  
CA Labor Federation  
CA Nurses Association  
CA State Law Enforcement Association  
Catholic Bishops of California  
Chief Probation Officers of California

Crime Survivors for Safety & Justice  
Community Coalition  
Courage Campaign  
Equality California  
Newt Gingrich  
LA Voice  
LA Chamber of Commerce  
League of Women Voters California  
Million Voters Project  
Mobilize the Immigrant Vote (MIV)  
LA Police Chief Charlie Beck  
SEIU State Council

## OPPONENTS

The opposition is headed up by the group Stop Early Release of Violent Criminals (SERVC), and backed by the CA Republican Party, a host of Republican State Senators and Representatives, Democrat Rep. Loretta Sanchez (running for US Senate against Kamala Harris), and a range of law enforcement organizations and District Attorneys.

Asian American Prosecutors Association  
Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs  
California Homeowners Association  
Crime Survivors  
Crime Victims United  
Sacramento Farm Bureau  
San Francisco Police Officers' Association  
UC Davis Police Officers Association



## PROP 58: REPEAL THE BAN ON BILINGUAL EDUCATION

**Prop 58 will correct a historical wrong, turning the page on one of the retrograde moments in our state's recent history.** It repeals nearly all of Prop 227, the English-only initiative passed by the state's voters in 1998 as part of a backlash

## SUPPORTERS

Advancement Project  
American Anthropological Association  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice, LA  
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)  
CA Calls  
CA Chamber of Commerce

against California's growing Latina/o community. That act's blanket ban on bilingual instruction in public schools was grounded in ideology and resentment, not a careful consideration of the effect of bilingual versus monolingual instruction on those for whom English was a second language.

To reject this spiteful and rash policy would be good reason alone to vote for Prop 58. But there's solid evidence of the benefits of multilingual education. **Local schools should have the option to figure out what works best for them and their students.** In particular, **it would bolster dual-immersion schools, which have tremendous benefits for both those learning English and those native to it** who are learning a new language such as Spanish or Korean.

Californians, and Angelenos especially, should be proud of our tremendous diversity. It's an **asset in our increasingly global economy** and a **boost to our democracy at home** and efforts to build bridges across national borders. In many countries around the world, it's normal to speak at least two, three, or even four languages fluently. There are incalculable benefits to building empathy across cultures and keeping our minds sharp as we age.

With Prop 58, California can lead the country in embracing linguistic diversity.

## **LA Forward recommends a YES vote on 58.**

CA Democratic Party  
CA Federation of Teachers  
CA Labor Federation  
CA Latino Caucus  
CA Medical Association  
CA Nurses Association  
CA Parent Teachers Association  
CA School Boards Association  
CA Teachers Association  
Community Coalition  
Equality California  
League of Women Voters of California  
Million Voter Project  
Mobilize the Immigrant Vote (MIV)  
PICO CA (People Improving Communities through Organizing)  
Our Revolution  
Public Advocates  
Sierra Club CA  
State. Sen Ricardo Lara

### **OPPONENTS**

U.S. Rep. Tom McClintock (R)  
California Republican Party  
Libertarian Party of California  
Ron Unz, advocate for Proposition 227  
Mauro E. Mujica, U.S. English Chairperson



## PROP 59: INSTRUCT ELECTED REPS TO PUSH FOR REPEAL OF CITIZENS UNITED

Prop 59 instructs California’s elected officials to do everything in their power to overturn Citizens United.

It’s no secret that Citizens United was a disastrous Supreme Court decision. It accelerated the corruption of our politics, allowing billions of dollars from corporate special interests and right-wing billionaires into our system— and they don’t even have to disclose that what and how much they’re giving to.

The basic argument against Prop 59 is that it’s not going to directly overturn Citizens United and fix the system. True. But so what? Legislation can be powerful as a signal of public sentiment, not just in terms of concrete policy changes. Courts, including the Supreme Court, have taken careful consideration of shifts in public opinion when they’ve made rulings in cases about LGBT rights, the death penalty and more. And elected officials at the national level gain credibility and energy to push for real reform with the expressed support of the public behind them. Montana and Colorado have already have passed similar measures, as have dozens of cities across the country. Californians have a chance to add to the national momentum of getting big money out of politics.

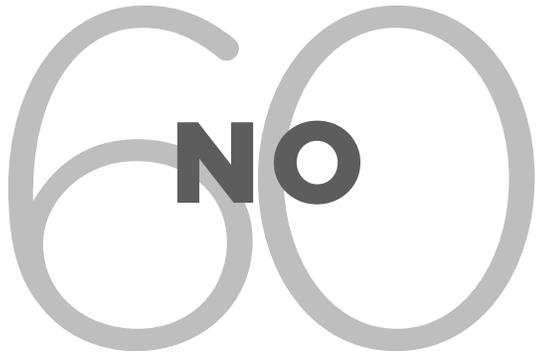
**LA Forward recommends a YES vote on Prop 59.**

### SUPPORTERS

Asian Americans Advancing Justice  
Bend the Arc  
CA League of Conservation Voters (CALCV)  
CA Democratic Party  
CA Labor Federation  
Common Cause  
Community Coalition  
Courage Campaign  
NextGen California  
Our Revolution (Bernie Sanders’ new group)  
Sierra Club  
State Sen. Ben Allen  
San Francisco Chronicle  
Sacramento Bee

### OPPONENTS

Los Angeles Times and several other newspaper editorial boards



## PROP 60: MISGUIDED MANDATE FOR CONDOMS

LA Forward supports the rights of workers to both a safe working environment and to represent their own interests with their own voice. Sex workers are no different and they've come out strongly against Prop 60, which mandates that adult film performers wear condoms.

Prop 60 is a pet project of Michael Weinstein, head of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, who's successfully pushed similar measures in LA County (and is also the major force behind a March 2017 NIMBY measure in LA City).

In a particularly **audacious example of self-dealing**, Prop 60 would automatically appoint Michael Weinstein, the author of the ballot initiative, as a state employee. He **wouldn't have to apply for this paid position and could be removed only by a vote of the State Legislature**. He'd be delegated the enormous power of policing a \$9 billion industry, with the authority to monitor all adult film production in California and take legal action against violators.

The impulse to protect workers' health is a good one, but the substance of Prop 60 is equally bad. **It is a one-size-fits-all measure that has predictable negative consequences and can only be changed with another initiative.**

As with Prop 54, Prop 60 suffers from a poor understanding of how systems operate in the real world. Condoms are hardly foolproof. They can break. Diseases can spread

### SUPPORTERS

Michael Weinstein, CEO of AIDS Healthcare Foundation  
American Sexual Health Association  
California State Association of Occupational Health Nurses  
California Communities United Institute  
Beyond AIDS  
California Academy of Preventive Medicine

### OPPONENTS

Adult Performer Advocacy Committee (APAC)  
Adult Performer Actors Guild  
AIDS Project Los Angeles  
Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice  
CA Democratic Party  
CA Republican Party

in spite of them. And the industry already practices testing of performers for HIV and most STIs every 2 weeks. Drugs including the HIV-prevention medicine PrEP further reduce the risk. Why should the state mandate one form of health prevention over another, in the **absence of a clearly documented problem** and **in the presence of vehement opposition from performers themselves?**

Many of the actors are especially worried that their real identities and addresses could become public as a result of the new state registry that would be created under Prop 60. Without the protection of screen names, they'd lose privacy and become easier targets for stalkers.

If it passes, Prop 60 might precipitate the film industry's move to other states or into underground production. When LA County voters passed a similar measure in 2012, the number of productions dropped by 90%

**We urge Angelenos to oppose this initiative.**

CA Libertarian Party  
Courage Campaign  
Equality CA  
Free Speech Coalition  
Gay Asian Pacific Alliance  
(GAPA)  
Los Angeles Times and every  
major newspaper in the state  
San Francisco AIDS Foundation  
San Francisco Medical Society  
Transgender Law Center

## **PROP 61: LOWER PRICES OF STATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PURCHASES**



Are you wondering why young people should care about the price of prescription drugs? The truth is chronic conditions are prevalent and you never know when illness will strike. Whether you have an allergy that requires you to carry an epipen, an inhaler to aid with asthma, or a drug to help fight cancer, the price of prescription drugs matter to us, our parents, and our grandparents, and our children.

## **Prop. 61 requires our state to pay no more for prescription drugs than what the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs pays for the same medication.**

Prescription drug costs have skyrocketed. Prop. 61 will allow the state to negotiate prices of the drugs for the patients it provides services for and potentially save taxpayers money. Some progressives fear that pharmaceutical companies will find ways to raise prices for Veterans to make up for any loss of profits. Others fear the lengths to which Big Pharma will go to keep profits high. Moreover, some of the prices paid by the Dept. of Veteran Affairs pay may be confidential and may take lawsuits to uncover. Be that as it may, we believe **if a BIG state like California begins to push back against profit-mongering, unscrupulous pharmaceutical companies, it might very well set off a nation-wide movement against them.** It's long overdue. People in the U.S. pay more for the same drugs than all other countries in the world.

**The status quo is leading only to higher drug costs for consumers and higher profits for big pharmaceutical companies. We need change and Prop 61 will bring it.**

That's why LA Forward recommends **a vote in favor of Prop 61.**

### **SUPPORTERS**

AIDS Healthcare Foundation (most of the funding)  
AARP California  
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)  
Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON)  
Bernie Sanders and Our Revolution  
CA Environmental Justice Alliance Action  
CA Nurses Association  
Courage Campaign  
Dolores Huerta  
Los Angeles Urban League  
Therapeutic Residential Care Services  
VoteVets

### **OPPONENTS**

Veterans of Foreign Wars,  
Department of California  
American Legion, Department  
of California  
California Association of Rural  
Health Clinics  
CA Chamber of Commerce and  
most local chambers of  
commerce  
CA LULAC  
CA Medical Association  
CA Taxpayers Association  
LA/OC Building & Construction  
Trades Council  
Latino Diabetes  
Association  
NAACP California  
Pharmaceutical companies  
are providing nearly all of  
funding against Prop 61  
Johnson & Johnson,  
Bristol-Myers Squibb,  
Purdue Pharma, Amgen,  
AstraZeneca, AbbVie,  
Novartis, Eli Lilly,



## PROP 62: END THE DEATH PENALTY

Yes, California still has the death penalty, even though our state hasn't executed a prisoner since 2006.

Since California reinstated the death penalty in 1978, 930 individuals have been sentenced to death. Only 13 have been executed. We currently have 748 inmates sitting on death row.

The cost since 1978? \$5 billion dollars for enhanced security for the inmates, the hearing and appeals process, and the cost of maintaining the punishment itself.

Inmates on death row are more likely to die of old age than be put to death. Victims' families are required to relive the process of losing their loved ones to violent crime in the hearings and appeals process for 20-30 years. We also risk executing an innocent person. With new DNA technology, 66 murder convictions have been overturned. That's not to even mention the dubious morality of authorizing the state to kill a human being in the first place.

**Our state could save \$150 million annually within a few years of enacting Prop. 62.**

Prop. 62 would repeal the death penalty as a maximum punishment and replace it with life in prison without the possibility of parole. It re-sentences inmates with current death sentences. It requires the inmates to work and increases the portion of wages that goes to victims.

Opponents to Prop. 62 say we should mend, not end the death penalty. They say that it will cost more money because the state has to care for the inmates for the rest of their lives. They claim supporters are not thinking of the victims of the death row inmates.

LA Forward strongly supports a Yes vote on Prop. 62 because the numbers speak for themselves. **We can't continue to maintain a costly system that is a practical, financial, and moral failure.**

### SUPPORTERS

Don Heller, Author of California's Death Penalty Law in 1978  
Father Greg Boyle, Homeboy Industries  
Jeanne Woodford, Former Death Row Warden at San Quentin State Prison  
ACLU California  
Amnesty International USA  
Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice  
Bryan Stevenson, Equal Justice Initiative  
CA Catholic Conference  
CA Federation of Teachers  
CA Labor Federation  
CA League of Women Voters  
CA NAACP  
California Nurses Association

Community Coalition (South Los Angeles)  
Dolores Huerta Foundation  
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights  
Justice Not Jails  
LA Voice  
Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF)  
Million Voters Project  
Murder Victims Families for Reconciliation  
Muslim Public Affairs Council  
National Center for Lesbian Rights  
PICO California  
SEIU California  
Our Revolution  
Youth Justice Coalition

### OPPONENTS

CA District Attorneys Association  
CA Professional Firefighters  
CA Taxpayer Protection Committee  
Crime Survivors  
Los Angeles Association of Deputy District Attorneys  
Los Angeles Police Protective League and most local and state police organizations  
Former CA Governor Pete Wilson  
Redlands Tea Party Patriots

## PROP 63: GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION



LA Forward supports Prop 63, which is a package of five gun control measures put forth by Lt. Gov Gavin Newsom. Two of the measures are nearly identical to legislation that was signed into law by Governor Brown earlier in the year. These two measures prohibit the possession of large-capacity magazines with ten rounds or more, and also subject the buyers of ammunition to the same kinds of background checks that gun buyers face. By passing Prop 63, voters will reaffirm these measures. If Prop 63 fails, the recent laws signed by Governor Brown will not be vacated.

In addition, the proposition would create three new gun control measures. Prop 63's third provision would create a process for law enforcement to seize firearms from individuals that are currently barred from possessing firearms by federal law. There are some groups that are concerned that this measure will give law enforcement additional leeway to enter people's homes illegally. LA Forward shares these concerns and urges California to consider ways to implement this provision while respecting Californians' civil liberties. The fourth provision **requires gun owners to report their weapons if they are lost or stolen as a way to curb the illegal trafficking of weapons.** Finally, Prop 63 will create a process for the State to share data with the FBI and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

While Prop 63 creates some concerns around civil liberties and is only a small step towards the comprehensive federal action needed to truly tackle gun violence, these proposed measures may begin to reduce gun violence in our state.

### SUPPORTERS

American Academy of Pediatrics, California  
Amnesty International  
Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence  
CA Council of Churches IMPACT  
CA Environmental Justice Alliance Action  
CA Federation of Teachers  
CA Nurses Association  
CA Faculty Association  
CA League of Women Voters  
CA Medical Association  
Committee of Interns and Residents, SEIU  
Courage Campaign  
Equality California  
Los Angeles Times  
Pride Fund to End Gun Violence  
SEIU  
Southern California Public Health Association

Gun violence claims the lives of over 1,100 Californians annually. It's time to tell lawmakers that we have had enough of preventable gun violence.

## **LA Forward encourages voters to support Prop 63.**

Women Against Gun Violence  
Youth Alive!

### **OPPONENTS**

Association for Los Angeles  
Deputy Sheriffs  
Association of Deputy District  
Attorneys for Los Angeles  
County  
CA Police Chiefs Association  
CA Republican Party  
CA Sheriffs Association  
National Rifle Association  
Steve Cooley, retired LA County  
District Attorney



## **PROP 64: LEGALIZE AND REGULATE MARIJUANA**

The “Adult Use of Marijuana Act (Prop 64),” would allow adults 21 and over to use marijuana recreationally, possess and share up to 28.5 grams of marijuana and 8 grams of concentrated marijuana, and grow up to six plants in their private residence. Prop 64 will also make individuals currently serving sentences for actions authorized under Prop 64 eligible for resentencing. Additionally, Prop 64 will permit retail sales of marijuana, with local regulation and taxation - in other words, cities and counties will have the final say on where and if commercial and retail marijuana operations occur within their jurisdictions and will be allowed to add additional local taxes to these operations. Lastly, Prop 64 will set labeling and advertising restrictions for commercial and retail marijuana operations.

We support Prop 64 for three important reasons.

First, Prop 64 includes a high level of local control when it comes to retail and commercial marijuana operations. **This encourages local communities to make their own decisions regarding commercial and retail marijuana operations.** It also provides them with the authority to tax these operations on top of the mandatory statewide taxes. This level of control has the **potential to generate significant amounts of tax revenue for local communities** if they choose to participate in allowing operations within their jurisdictions; if they want to stay out completely, they can do so.

Second, **State revenues raised by the proposed taxation system under Prop 64 will largely go to after-school programs, drug prevention and education programs, scientific research and law enforcement training.** Unlike previous legalization efforts, which failed to identify where tax money would go, Prop 64 lays out a clear plan to fund important social programs, most of which are designed as safety measures for recreational marijuana use, such as preemptive actions against impaired driving.

Third, Prop 64 will help **correct unjust drug enforcement sentences and enforcement practices.** Years of drug enforcement data demonstrate that low-income people of color are arrested and sentenced disproportionately for use and possession of substances such as marijuana. Prop 64 will improve the current system by **allowing non-violent marijuana offenders, under current law, to petition for resentencing and by imposing infractions upon youth offenders instead of automatic arrests and incarceration.** These changes will relieve prison populations of non-violent marijuana offenders, and will prevent youth and adults from incurring marks on their permanent records which would prevent them from accessing gainful employment and other important resources associated education.

Prop 64 isn't perfect – concerns over marijuana retail locations and their potential to be disproportionately located in low-income neighborhoods (as we are starting to see in Denver), are legitimate, as are concerns over potential increases in DUI cases. However, we firmly believe that Prop 64's benefits outweigh its costs. Prop 64 contains enough control measures and opportunities for communities to significantly shape its local implementation.

Will implementing Prop 64 in a smart, fair way take a good amount of work and monitoring? Absolutely. But that's not reason enough to pass on the social justice and tax revenue opportunities made possible by legalizing and regulating marijuana.

**Bottom line: Prop 64 deserves your vote as a way to de-criminalize our communities and start investing in them instead.**

## SUPPORTERS

ACLU  
African American Alcohol and  
Other Drug Council of LA County  
All of Us or None, Southern  
California  
Blacks in Law Enforcement of  
America  
Break the Chains: Communities of  
Color and the War on Drugs  
CA Democratic Party  
CA Green Party  
CA Peace and Freedom Party  
CA Medical Association  
CA NAACP  
CA Nurses Association (CNA)  
Drug Policy Alliance  
Ella Baker Center  
Equality California  
Justice Not Jails  
Law Enforcement Against  
Prohibition (LEAP)  
Los Angeles Times  
National Latino Officers  
Association  
NORML  
Our Revolution  
Progressive Christians Uniting  
San Francisco Chronicle  
United Food and Commercial  
Workers Western States  
Council  
Youth Justice Coalition

## OPPONENTS

AAA of Southern California  
CA Libertarian Party  
CA Republican Party  
CA Hospital Association  
Santee Solutions Coalition  
Smart Approaches to Marijuana  
of Northern California - SAM  
Action  
South Bay Cities Council of  
Governments  
The Small Farmers Association  
U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Vista Community Clinic  
Weed for Warriors Project  
Statewide Law Enforcement  
Organizations: Highway  
Patrolmen, Police Chiefs,  
Correctional Supervisors,  
District Attorneys, Narcotic  
Officers, State Sheriffs



## PROP 65: SABOTAGE PLASTIC BAG BAN

LA Forward opposes Prop 65, which would require that the fee on carryout bags be directed to environmental projects. Without a closer reading this sounds like good policy, but a closer review of the fine print of Prop 65 suggests that **the measure is**

## SUPPORTERS

American Progressive Bag  
Alliance (an industry-funded  
lobbying group)  
CA Republican Party  
CA Senior Advocates League  
CA Taxpayer Protection  
Committee

## OPPONENTS

CA Coastkeeper Alliance

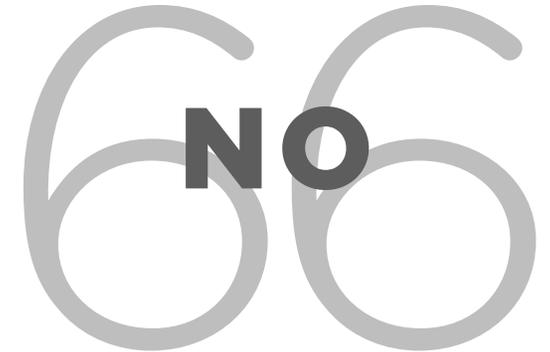
**aimed at vacating Prop 67, which would implement a ban on plastic bags.** While we support more funding for environmental conservation, the possibility that Prop 65 could sabotage the plastic bag ban (see Prop 67 for more information) leads us to encourage voters to say no to this deceptive measure.

**Excessive waste from plastic bags not only costs the public money by requiring clean up efforts, it pollutes our oceans and beaches and threatens wildlife. Most of the claims against plastic bag bans** (job losses, increased risk of foodborne disease) **have been debunked,** so voters shouldn't risk interfering with the bag ban by supporting Prop 65.

**LA Forward urges Angelenos to vote NO on Prop 65.**

CA Environmental Justice Alliance  
CA Nurses Association  
Clean Water Action  
Environment California  
Heal the Bay  
Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce  
League of Women Voters of California  
Monterey Bay Aquarium  
Nature Conservancy  
Northern California Recycling Association (NCRA)  
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce  
Sierra Club California  
Surfrider Foundation

## **PROP 66: SPEED UP THE DEATH PENALTY**

A large graphic consisting of two large, light gray, rounded numbers '66'. In the center, between the two '6's, the word 'NO' is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

LA Forward is strongly opposed to Prop 66, a death penalty initiative which directly competes with Prop 62 (which LA Forward strongly supports) and would become law should it receive more votes. The aim of Prop 66 is to accelerate the death penalty with three new measures, which collectively would undermine appellant rights to a fair review of their case.

Advocates of the measure rightly point out that the death penalty appeals process is flawed and very costly. **But the solution is not to speed up executions. A better way to fix the system would be to abolish the death penalty and fix the criminal justice system.** Too many wrongfully convicted people have been exonerated in death penalty cases (sometimes after their executions, tragically) to clear all the roadblocks to death row.

Advocates of Prop 66 are right that the criminal justice system needs fixing — **but this is an inhumane and misguided response and LA Forward urges a NO vote.**

#### SUPPORTERS

Association of Los Angeles  
Deputy Sheriffs  
CA Police Chiefs Association  
CA Republican Party  
LA Police Protective League  
Former Gov Pete Wilson (R)  
Former Gov George  
Deukmejian (R)

#### OPPONENTS

ACLU of California  
Bend the Arc: A Jewish  
Partnership for Justice  
Bryan Stevenson / Equal Justice  
Initiative  
CA Catholic Conference  
CA Federation of Labor  
CA Federation of Teachers  
CA NAACP  
CA Nurses Association

Color of Change  
Donald Heller, author of  
CA's 1987 death penalty law  
Ella Baker Center for Human  
Rights  
Jeanne Woodford, Warden,  
California Death Row Prison  
(1994-2004)  
Justice not Jails  
LA Voice

LatinoJustice PRLDEF  
League of Women Voters of  
California  
Murder Victims Families for  
Reconciliation  
National Hispanic Leadership  
Agenda  
PICO California



## PROP 67: BAN CARRY-OUT PLASTIC BAGS

LA Forward strongly supports Prop 67, which would ratify a ban on plastic carryout bags at large grocery stores. The ban was originally passed by the California legislature in 2014, but an effort to place the law on the ballot led by the plastic bag industry gained enough signatures in early 2015 to halt implementation of the ban.

The purpose of the ban is to **reduce waste from plastic bags, which pollutes rivers and waterways with chemicals and particles that take years to decompose and snarls vulnerable wildlife.** Opponents of the ban warn that banning plastic bags from large grocery stores will lead to job losses in the plastic industry, increase the risk of food-borne illness as more people bring reusable bags to stores, and place an undue burden on low-income people who cannot afford to buy reusable bags.

But many cities across the US and California have already implemented plastic bag bans, and these negative effects have not come to fruition. Instead, municipalities have seen lower levels of litter from plastic bags and increased savings from the reduced pollution.

## **LA Forward believes that we are long overdue in pursuing common-sense solutions to the problems facing our environment and urges voters to say YES to Prop 67.**

### **SUPPORTERS**

Black Surfers Collective	California
CA Alliance for Retired Americans	Monterey Bay Aquarium
CA Democratic Party	NAACP California
CA League of Conservation Voters	The Nature Conservancy
CA Coastkeeper Alliance	Our Revolution
CA Environmental Justice Alliance	Pacoima Beautiful
Action	Save the Bay
CA Labor Federation	Sierra Club
CA Nurses Association	Surfrider
CA State Association of Counties	TransForm
Don't Waste LA/LAANE	United Food & Commercial
Heal the Bay	Workers, Western States Council
League of Women Voters of	

### **OPPONENTS**

American Forest and Paper Association  
American Progressive Bag Alliance (an industry-funded lobbying group)  
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association  
Teamsters District Council 2