

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE KK

Placed on the ballot by a unanimous City Council and Mayor, **Measure KK is a good government measure to update various administrative provisions of the Berkeley City Charter.**

First adopted in 1895, Berkeley's City Charter is built on an old foundation. Updates are necessary to remove outdated elements, increase clarity and ensure conformity with current law and best practices.

Measure KK:

- Allows the implementation ordinance for the Redistricting Commission to be amended less than 5 years after adoption when necessary to conform with State or Federal Law.
- Removes an outdated firefighter residency requirement.
- Brings eligibility requirements for serving on the Redistricting Commission into conformance with California Law.
- Provides for the City Council to appoint the City Attorney and clarifies City Attorney duties and responsibilities.
- Updates outdated Charter language to remove non-inclusive gendered language, bringing our Charter in line with current law and practice.

Changes in mutual aid reduce the need for firefighters to live in a small radius, and the rising cost of housing has pushed many first responders to live beyond the urban core. Lifting the firefighter residency requirement will allow Berkeley to recruit firefighters from a broader geographic area while still ensuring emergency response capabilities necessary for major events.

Subsequent to Berkeley's adoption of an independent citizen's Redistricting Commission, California adopted a law that residents "regardless of citizenship or immigration status" may hold appointed office. Measure KK conforms the Charter to State law and allows all Berkeleyans, regardless of citizenship, to serve on our Redistricting Commission.

Berkeley's Charter doesn't formally establish the Office of City Attorney or delineate its duties and powers in a comprehensive manner. Measure KK brings the establishment and responsibilities of the Office of City Attorney in line with best practices in cities, counties, and other municipalities across the State.

Thank you for voting **YES** on Measure KK, to support good government in Berkeley.

s/Jesse Arreguín
Berkeley Mayor

s/Sophie Hahn
Berkeley Vice Mayor and City Councilmember

s/Ben Bartlett
Berkeley City Councilmember

s/Kate Harrison
Berkeley City Councilmember

s/Rigel Robinson
Berkeley City Councilmember