

Rebuttal to Argument in favor of Measure R

Welcome to Texas.

The 1986 District Elections Charter Amendment specified the borders of Berkeley's eight council districts. Measure R erases all those instructions and allows current councilmembers to draw district lines **at their discretion and for their personal benefit without the consent of voters!**

The district borders were specified in the original amendment to prevent just the kind of gerrymandering Measure R would institutionalize. Under Measure R, the only restrictions on the council are perfectly vague: "integrity", "topography", "community interest", "major arteries", and those are only required to be "taken into consideration."

^{COYS}
No Council should be given this much power! While adjustments are currently required ten years based on census counts, the council is obliged to adhere as closely as feasible to the Charter boundaries, while upholding Federal equal population requirements.

If our Council just wanted to adjust those boundaries to better reflect changing populations, they would specify new boundaries in this Charter Amendment instead of giving themselves alone the power to draw them, and make themselves councilmembers for life. **Any massive change to the boundaries must go before the voters**, according to the current law! Measure R is an end run around this key provision.

Measure R is **NOT good government**. It is **NOT** fair and inclusive. It gives **all the power to sitting Councilmembers** and takes it away from the people of Berkeley. The Council only needs this much power in order to abuse it. **Don't give it to them!**

Join us in voting NO on Measure R.

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CITY OF BERKELEY
CITY CLERK DEPARTMENT

- 2) **Shirley Dean, Former Mayor, City of Berkeley**
- 4) **Dave Blake, see Rebuttal Signature Form**
- 5) **Jacquelyn McCormick, founder Berkeley Council Watch, coordinator Berkeley Budget SOS, Mayoral candidate**
- 3) **Nancy Carleton, see Rebuttal Signature Form**
- 1) **Pam Sanford**