

CITY of CARPINTERIA, CALIFORNIA



April 10, 2023

Bismarck Obando
Director of Public Affairs, League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Members of the City Council

Al Clark - *Mayor*
Natalia Alarcon - *Vice Mayor*
Roy Lee
Wade T. Nomura
Mónica Solórzano

RE: Letter Opposing Initiative 21-0042A1

On March 13, 2023, the City of Carpinteria City Council voted to send an opposition letter to Initiative 21-0042A1, a deceptive, developer-sponsored proposition aimed for the November 2024 statewide ballot that would significantly jeopardize citizens' ability to support and cities' ability to provide essential services and infrastructure for our communities.

The measure includes undemocratic provisions that would make it more difficult for local voters to pass measures needed to fund local services and projects and would limit voter input by prohibiting local advisory measures where voters can express a preference on how they want their local tax dollars spent.

This measure creates new constitutional loopholes that allow corporations to pay far less than their fair share for the impacts they have on our communities, including impacts on local infrastructure and our environment. This measure also may make it much more difficult for state and local regulators to issue fines and levies on corporations that violate laws intended to protect our environment, public health and safety, and our neighborhoods.

Unless defeated, the measure puts billions of dollars currently dedicated to local services at risk, and could force cuts to fire and emergency response, law enforcement, public health, parks, libraries, affordable housing, services to support homeless residents, mental health services, and more.

In 2017, Carpinteria community members initiated a grass-roots effort to pass a tax needed to support and expand local services, including operation of the Carpinteria Library. The tax measure was overwhelmingly approved by voters. This Initiative would have prevented Carpinterians from addressing the needs of their community.

The City of Carpinteria is in formal opposition to Initiative #21-0042A1 and include our city as part of the growing coalition of public safety, labor, local government, infrastructure advocates, and other organizations throughout the state opposed to this deceptive proposition.

Sincerely,

Al Clark, Mayor
City of Carpinteria