City of San José

Argument In Favor Of Measure S

MEASURE S
Construction Contract Procurement Modernization - A ballot measure proposal to amend Section 1217 of Article XII of the San José City Charter to modify construction contract procurement and the bidding process.

Signature Order:
1. Jim Cunneen, Former CEO, Chamber of Commerce, Former Republican Assemblyman
2. Steve Flores, Plumber/Pipefitter, Plumbers & Pipefitters UA Local 393
3. Maria Aguilar, Business Owner
4. Claudia Folzman, Chief Financial Officer, Construction Company
5. Lan Diep, Councilmember, District 4, City of San Jose
MEASURE S

Measure S enables San Jose to stretch its public works dollars further, protecting taxpayers from shoddy construction and fraudulent bidding on our public works projects. Please vote Yes.

Existing rules don’t protect taxpayers from unqualified or fraudulent contractors who intentionally submit cheap, below-market bids to win a contract, knowing that they will demand expensive and time-delaying “change orders” later. This leads to higher costs, defective construction, project delays, unnecessary disputes, and expensive litigation.

Voting Yes on Measure S will ensure that San Jose taxpayers will get their money’s worth from public works contracts by:
- Prioritizing selection of contractors based on lowest cost;
- Allowing the City to also consider such factors as job performance history, experience, and proven work quality when awarding projects;
- Lowering the “design-build” contract threshold from $5,000,000 to $1,000,000 to provide greater flexibility.

Other government agencies that have adopted these reforms report numerous benefits, including fewer disputes, fewer costly “change orders,” less litigation, and more public works projects completed on-time, and on-budget.

By requiring the use of objective criteria for determining the best contractor for the project, Measure S ensures a fair, transparent public works construction bidding process.

In addition to increasing the efficiency of the contracting process, Measure S reforms the public works bidding process by:
- Increasing opportunity for small, local, and economically-disadvantaged businesses to compete for public contracts;
- Modernizing how we notify the public about bidding opportunities to ensure that more construction firms will compete for every project.

Measure S ensures San Jose residents get projects built by contractors who offer the lowest cost, and have the best record of accomplishment for experience, work quality and expertise.

We’ve seen enough public works contractor “horror stories.” Vote Yes on Measure S to protect San Jose’s taxpayers from unqualified and unethical contractors.

Please vote Yes on Measure S. SmartContractsYesonS.org