CITY OF WOODLAND CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE "J" CITY COUNCIL SALARIES

On June 21, 2022, the City Council voted to place Measure "J" on the November 8, 2022 general municipal election ballot.

If approved by a majority of Woodland voters, Measure "J" would adjust the current salary for Woodland City Council members from \$250 per month to \$500 per month. Measure "J" would also repeal Measure "C", which was adopted by the voters of Woodland on April 8, 1986. Measure "C" set Woodland City Council salaries at \$250 per month and further provided that City Council salaries could only be increased by a vote of the citizens of Woodland. Measure "J" would allow that in the future the City could adjust City Council salaries in accordance with the restrictions set forth in state law.

California Government Code section 36516(a) governs city council salaries, and provides that council salaries for cities between 50,000 and 75,000 in population (like Woodland) may be set at an amount up to \$500 per month. Government Code section 36516(a) also provides that the City Council may increase salaries above the \$500 per month limit, provided that salaries cannot be increase by more than five percent for each calendar year since the operative date for the last salary adjustment. Additionally, any increase in Council salary cannot take effect until after the following Council election. Therefore, if Measure "J" passes, City Council salaries could be adjusted in the future by the adoption of an ordinance by the City Council, but could not be increase by more than five percent per year, and any salary adjustment would not be effective until after the next City Council election.

A "yes" vote on Measure "J" will authorize an increase to City Council salaries from \$250 per month to \$500 per month, and will allow the City to adjust City Council salaries in the future in accordance with state law.

A "no" vote on Measure "J" will keep City Council salaries at \$250 per month, and will continue to require that any increase to City Council salaries must be approved by the voters of Woodland at a future election.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure "J". If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the City's elections official at (530) 661-5806 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

ETHAN WALSH City Attorney