

CITY OF WOODLAND

**CITY ATTORNEY'S
IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE U**

Measure U, if approved by a majority of the voters voting on the measure, will adopt Ordinance 1561, which would change the election system for members of the City Council of the City of Woodland from an “at large” to a “by district” system. The City currently has an “at large” election system, which means that voters citywide elect all five council members. Measure U proposes that council members be elected “by district.” Under a by district system, each council member would represent one of five geographic districts. Each council member would be required to reside and be a registered voter in the district he or she represents. Only registered voters in the district would vote for that district’s council member.

The City Council voted on June 3, 2014 to place Measure U on the ballot. If a majority of the voters voting on Measure U approves the measure, the City’s first “by district” council election will occur in 2016. Measure U proposes that the City’s voters elect three council members by district in 2016 and two in 2018. After the 2018 election, all council members will have been elected from a specific district. Council members elected by district would serve four-year terms.

Measure U also provides that the City Council will adopt an ordinance setting forth the timing and sequence of the elections by district. This means that the City Council would determine the three districts that will elect Council members in 2016 and the two districts that will elect Council members in 2018. If Measure U is approved, the two council members who were elected in June 2014 will serve the remainder of their four-year terms in “at large” seats unless one or both runs in 2016 from a Council district.

The proposed district boundaries are set forth in a map attached to Ordinance 1561. The City Council will adjust the districts’ boundaries after each federal census to ensure the districts are as nearly equal in population as practicable. The City Council may also adjust the boundaries after the City annexes territory. A change in a district’s boundaries will not affect the term of any council member.

A “yes” vote on Measure U would change the manner by which council members are elected from “at large” to “by district.” A “no” vote would leave the existing at large election process in place.

s/ Kara K. Ueda
Woodland City Attorney



CITY OF WOODLAND

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE U

Please vote Yes on Measure U.

Measure U will change our Woodland City Council elections from "at-large" or city-wide elections to district elections.

A "Yes" vote is a vote for local control. A "Yes" vote means you will be represented in decision-making.

Voting "Yes" gives you a voice in how city council districts are created in Woodland. Voting "Yes" protects the City of Woodland from expensive lawsuits.

The advantages of district elections are clear:

- Districts ensure the entire community is represented. Not just one small area.
- Districts lower campaign costs for council elections and enable more people to compete for council seats.
- Districts reduce City election costs.

The California Voting Rights Act compels us to adopt district elections. Measure U seeks your permission to make this required transition as inexpensive as possible.

Every city that has chosen to fight the California Voting Rights Act's implementation of council districts has been sued and either lost or settled. The costs have been staggering! The following cities refused to comply. Look at their court costs:

- * Anaheim: \$2.5 million
- * Modesto: \$4.7 million
- * Palmdale: \$5.1 million and growing

None of the cities that have been sued have avoided implementation of district elections. Woodland needs our tax dollars to pay for local services like public safety, programs for seniors, expanded library services, and youth programs -- not lawsuits!

If Measure U does not pass, it is almost certain that our City will be sued. The Courts could then take the decision out of your hands. The Courts could take over the process, define the districts and stick us with the bill!

Save our precious taxpayer dollars for much needed services, not lawsuits. Retain local control by voting "Yes".

Thank you for your consideration

s/ Tom Stallard, Mayor

s/ William L. Marble, Mayor Pro Tem

s/ Marlin H. "Skip" Davies, Former Mayor

s/ Art Pimentel, Former Mayor

s/ Matt Rexroad, Former Mayor

CITY OF WOODLAND

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE U

(None Filed)



CITY OF WOODLAND

MEASURE U

ORDINANCE NO. 1561

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND, CALIFORNIA
ADDING ARTICLE II TO CHAPTER 27, ELECTIONS, TO THE WOODLAND MUNICIPAL
CODE RELATING TO ELECTION OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS BY DISTRICTS**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Woodland has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to shift from its current at large election system to a by district election for members of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, a subcommittee of the City Council analyzed the City's population and presented a map of the City depicting proposed boundaries of five districts; and

WHEREAS, the City Council formed a citizens committee, the Citizens Advisory Committee on City Council District Boundaries, which examined demographic data, held public forums, and recommended up to two maps for the City Council's consideration; and

WHEREAS, the City Council on November 19, 2013 selected a proposed map depicting boundaries of five districts and reaffirmed the selected map on April 15, 2014; and

WHEREAS, in order to change to a by district election, a majority of the voters voting on the measure must approve the change.

The City Council of the City of Woodland does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1. Article II of Chapter 27 is hereby added to the Woodland Municipal Code to read as follows:

Article II. Election of City Council

27-2-1 Definitions.

27-2-2 Number of Districts.

27-2-3 Boundaries and Numbering of Each District.

27-2-4 Election of City Council.

27-2-5 Amendment of District Boundaries.

27-2-6 Transition to District Elections.

Sec. 27-2-1 Definitions.

"By district" as used in this Article II shall mean election of members of the City Council by voters of the district alone.

"Geographical area making up the district" shall mean the district.

Sec. 27-2-2 Number of Districts.

Pursuant to Government Code section 34871(a), the City of Woodland is divided into five (5) council manic districts.

Sec. 27-2-3. Boundaries and Numbering of Each District.

Descriptions of the boundaries of each district and their numbering are as shown on the attached Exhibit A along with a map entitled "City of Woodland District Map," a copy of which shall be on file in the City Clerk's office.

Sec. 27-2-4. Election of City Council.

Members of the City Council shall be elected "by districts" as provided in California Government Code sections 34881



through 34833, as such sections may be amended. Each district shall elect one Council member. Except as provided in Section 27-2-6, a Council member of each district must live in that district and must be a registered voter in that district to be eligible to hold office for that district. Only voters who live in a district shall be eligible to vote in the election for Council member of that district.

Sec. 27-2-5. Amendment of District Boundaries.

Pursuant to Elections Code section 21601, as it may be amended, the City Council shall adjust the boundaries of any or all of the districts following each decennial federal census. Using the census as a basis, the City Council shall adjust the boundaries so that the districts shall be as nearly equal in population as practicable and in compliance with all applicable provisions of law. Any adjustment of district boundaries shall be made by ordinance adopted by the City Council before the first day of November of the year following the year in which each decennial federal census is taken. Prior to the public hearing approving the adjustment of the district boundaries, the City Council shall hold a public hearing on the proposed district boundaries as required by Elections Code section 21601.1.

At the time of any annexation of territory to the City, the City Council shall designate, by resolution adopted by a vote of at least a majority of the City Council, the contiguous district to which the annexed territory shall be a part and shall amend the district boundaries if necessary in accordance with Elections Code section 21603, as it may be amended.

Pursuant to Elections Code section 21606, the term of office of any council member who has been elected and whose term of office has not expired shall not be affected by any change in the boundaries of the district from which he or she was elected, whether or not that council member is a resident within the boundaries of the district as adjusted. At the first election for council following adjustment of the boundaries of the districts, a person meeting the requirements of Government Code section 34882 shall be elected to the City Council for each district under the readjusted district plan that has the same district number as a district whose incumbent's term on the council is due to expire.

Sec. 27-2-6. Transition to District Elections.

A period of transition from at large elections to district shall occur from the time of approval of this Ordinance by the voters in November 2014 to the municipal election in 2016. Three council members shall be elected by district in 2016, and two shall be elected by district in 2018. The City Council shall adopt an ordinance setting forth the timing and sequence of the elections by district. Each incumbent Council member elected at large shall be allowed to complete the term for which they are elected regardless of the district of residency so long as they otherwise remain eligible to hold the office and have not been removed for cause or elected to another office.

Section 2. Amendment or Repeal of this Ordinance. The provisions of this Ordinance may be amended or repealed by a majority vote of the electorate. However, the City Council, pursuant to Section 27-2-5, shall have the authority to amend the initial boundaries established for the five districts.

Section 3. Severability. If any provision or clause of this Ordinance or any application of it to any person, firm, organization, partnership, or corporation is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions of this Ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application. To this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 4. Effective Date. Enactment of this Ordinance shall take effect only if approved by a majority vote of the voters voting at the November 2014 Special Election and shall become effective ten days after the City Council declares and certifies by resolution the results of the elections and that the measure was approved by a majority of the voters voting thereon.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council this 3rd day of June, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Denny, Hilliard, Marble, Stallard and Mayor Davies
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

s/ Marlin H. Davies, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

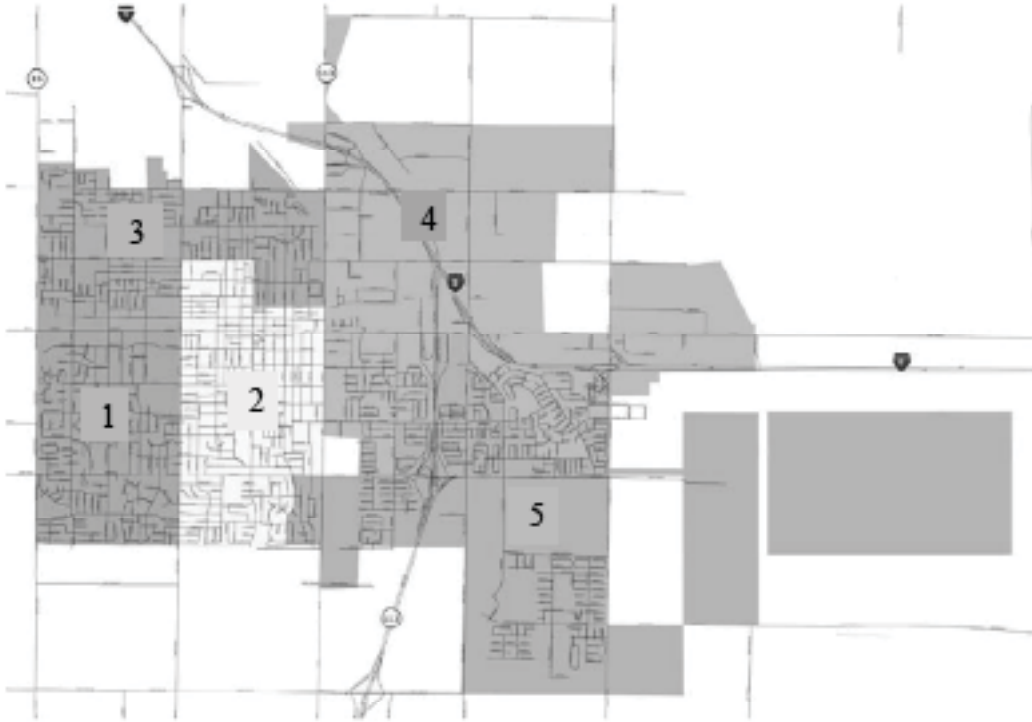
s/ Ana B. Gonzalez, City Clerk

s/ Kara K. Ueda, City Attorney



EXHIBIT A

The City of Woodland District Map is shown below, and a copy shall be on file in the City Clerk's office. Descriptions of the boundaries of each district and their numbering followings after the map.



District 1: The region bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at northwest corner of CR 98 and W. Beamer Street, hence proceeding easterly along W. Beamer Street to Cottonwood Street, proceeding southerly on Cottonwood Street to W. Main Street, proceeding easterly on W. Main Street to West Street, proceeding southerly on West Street to the southeast corner of West Street and the city limits between CR 98 and 99, proceeding westerly along the City limits between CR 98 and 99, proceeding northerly on CR 98 to the point of beginning.

District 2: The region bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner of West Street and Beamer Street, hence proceeding easterly on Beamer Street to College Street, proceeding southerly on College Street to North Street, proceeding east on North Street to East Street, proceeding southerly on East Street to Gibson Road, proceeding westerly on Gibson Road to Coloma Way, proceeding southerly on Coloma Way to the City limits parallel with CR 24 proceeding westerly to West Street, proceeding northerly on West Street to the point of beginning.

District 3: The region bounded and described as follows:

Beginning on the northwest corner of CR 98 and the city limits between CR 98 and CR 978B, hence proceeding easterly along the City limits to CR 98B, proceeding southerly on CR 98B to the City limits proceeding easterly to the City limits outside Private Road, proceeding southerly on Private Road to W. Kentucky Avenue, proceeding easterly on W. Kentucky Avenue to the City limits, proceeding northerly along the City limits to the northwest corner of the City limits, proceeding westerly along the City limits to the northeast corner of the City limits, proceeding southerly along the City limits to the southwest corner of the City limits, proceeding easterly along the City limits to the northeast corner of the City limits, proceeding southerly along the City limits to Aspen Street, continue easterly along Aspen Street to CR 99, continue southerly along CR 99 to Kentucky Avenue, continue easterly along Kentucky Avenue to the



Date: 8-9, OKAY

District 4: The region bounded and described as follows:

Beginning on the northwest corner on N. East Street and CR 18C, hence proceeding easterly along CR 18C to the City limits, proceeding southerly along the City limits to Churchill Downs Avenue, proceeding easterly along Churchill Downs Avenue to the City limits parallel with CR 102, proceeding westerly along CR 20 to the City limits, proceeding southerly along the City limits to E. Beamer Street, proceeding westerly along E. Beamer Street to the City limits, proceeding southerly along the City limits to the City Limits, proceeding easterly along the City limits parallel with E. Main Street, proceeding easterly to CR 102, proceeding northerly along CR 102 to E. Beamer Street, proceeding easterly along E. Beamer Street to the City limits, proceeding southerly along the City limits to the City limits, proceeding easterly along the City limits to the City limits, proceeding southerly along the City limits parallel to CR 103 to the City limits, proceeding westerly along the City limits, to the City limits, proceeding southerly to the City limits, proceeding westerly along the City limits to the City limits, proceeding southerly along the City limits to the City limits, proceeding easterly along the City limits to CR 102, proceeding southerly on CR 102 to Maxwell Avenue, proceeding westerly on Maxwell Avenue to Farnham Avenue, proceeding southerly on Farnham Avenue to Branigan Avenue, proceeding westerly on Branigan Avenue to Wallace Drive, proceeding northerly on Wallace Drive to E. Gum Avenue, proceeding westerly on E. Gum Avenue to Pioneer Avenue, proceeding northerly on Pioneer Avenue to E. Main Street, proceeding westerly on E. Main Street to Hwy 113, proceeding southerly on Hwy 113 to E. Gum Avenue, proceeding westerly on E. Gum Avenue to Matmor Road, proceeding southerly on Matmor Road to E. Gibson Road, proceeding westerly on E. Gibson Road to the city limits; proceeding northerly along the City limits to the City limits, proceeding westerly along the City limits to East Street, proceeding northerly on East Street to the City limits parallel with I-5, proceeding westerly along the City limits to the City limits, proceeding northerly along the City limits to the City limits, proceeding easterly along the City limits to N. East Street proceeding northerly along N. East Street to CR 18C to the point of beginning.

District 5: The region bounded and described as follows:

Beginning on the southwest corner of Gibson Road and Coloma Way, hence proceeding easterly on Gibson Road to Matmor Road, proceeding northerly on Matmor Road to E. Gum Avenue, proceeding easterly on E. Gum Avenue to Hwy 113, proceeding northerly on Hwy 113 to E. Main Street, proceeding easterly on E. Main Street to Pioneer Avenue, proceeding southerly on Pioneer Avenue to E. Gum Avenue, proceeding easterly on E. Gum Avenue to Wallace Drive, proceeding southerly on Wallace Drive to Branigan Avenue, proceeding easterly on Branigan Avenue to Farnham Avenue, proceeding northerly on Farnham Avenue to Maxwell Avenue, proceeding easterly on Maxwell Avenue to County Road 102, proceeding northerly on County Road 102 to the boundary of District 4, proceeding easterly along the boundary of District 4 to City limits, proceeding southerly along City limits parallel to County Road 102 southerly to city limits including all undeveloped property within the City limits east of County Road 102, (Wastewater Treatment Plant, PCP Lease Fields and old City dump/Regional Park), proceeding westerly along city limits to Harry Lorenzo Avenue, proceeding northerly along Harry Lorenzo Avenue to the City limits; proceeding westerly along the City limits (parallel to Sports Park Drive) to the City limits; proceeding southerly along City limits to City limits just south of 24C; proceeding westerly along the City limits to East Street; proceeding northerly on East Street to city limit line; proceeding westerly along city limit line parallel to CR 24A to Coloma Way; proceeding northerly on Coloma Way to Gibson Road to the point of beginning.

