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I HAVE VOTED - HAVE YOU?
OFFICIAL BALLOT
CITY OF REDONDO BEACH
GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2003

THIS BALLOT STUB SHALL BE REMOVED
AND RETAINED BY THE VOTER

Mark your choice(s) by
FILLING IN OVAL  COMPLETELY
with a BLACK OR DARK COLORED PEN ONLY. 

No. 12345

1

CITY OF REDONDO BEACH

[Empty box for voter information]

For CITY CLERK Vote for ONE

SANDY FORREST
City Clerk

→

→

For CITY TREASURER Vote for ONE

ERNIE O'DELL
City Treasurer

→

GARY OHST
Self Employed Businessman

→

→

REDONDO BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

For BOARD OF EDUCATION
4 Year Term Vote for No More Than TWO

ARLENE STAICH
Retired Teacher

→

DAVE WIGGINS
Board Member

→

CARL CLARK
Real Estate Agent

→

PAUL CONNOLLY
Incumbent

→

→

→

For BOARD OF EDUCATION
2 Year Unexpired Term Vote for ONE

JANE DIEHL
Physical Therapist

→

POLLY KINSINGER
Business Owner / Manager

→

→

1 CONTINUE VOTING ON THE BACK SIDE

RB/101

MEASURES SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS

CITY OF REDONDO BEACH

E Shall Article XIX Section 19.5 of the Redondo Beach City Charter be amended to allow for the publication of legal notices in a newspaper of general circulation?

YES

→

NO

→

F Shall Article XIX of the Redondo Beach City Charter be amended to allow the City Council to establish by Ordinance the minimum dollar amounts required for competitive bidding and public works contracts?

YES

→

NO

→

END OF BALLOT

Redondo Beach 102

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PROPOSITION F

Sec. 19. PUBLIC WORKS, CONTRACTS

Every contract involving an expenditure of more than that amount established by the City Council through ordinance Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for public works projects including the construction of improvements of public buildings, streets, drains, sewers, utilities parks and playground shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder after notice by publication in the official newspaper by one (1) or more insertions, the first of which shall be published at least ten (10) days before the time for opening of bids.

Public works projects of those amounts established by the City Council through ordinance Fifty Thousand Dollars \$50,000 or less may be let to contract by informal bid procedures, or as shall be set by the City Council by Ordinance, Public Works projects of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) or less may be performed by employees of the City by force account, by negotiated contract or by purchase order. Procedures for this process will be adopted by the City Council through ordinance.

Sec. 19.1 Competitive bidding, when not required

(e) On all purchases of supplies or materials under that amount established by the City Council through ordinance, \$5,000.00, providing such purchases are approved by the City Manager.

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSITION F

Section 19 of the City Charter currently provides that contracts for public works projects involving the expenditure of more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) are to be advertised and awarded through a formal public bidding process to the lowest responsible bidder. A public works project of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or less may be awarded to contract by informal bid process. Public works projects of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) or less may be performed by employees of the City.

Proposition F would amend Section 19 - by removing the existing dollar amounts and substituting language to allow setting the amounts by ordinance. Section 19 would still retain the designation and requirements for the formal, informal, and employee performed work projects. The proposed amendment deletes the dollar amounts and substitutes the following language; "Procedures for this process will be adopted by the City Council through ordinance." Such a procedure would allow the City Council to set by ordinance, and from time to time adjust, the dollar amounts for public work

projects to be performed by city employee, by informal bid, or by the formal public bidding process.

Implementation of this measure has no identifiable fiscal impact on the City.

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE F

It doesn't make sense. You wouldn't give your best friend a blank check, so why give one to the Council and City Manager? Here is what Proposition F will do for the politicians:

Remove limits on discretionary spending from the City Charter.

Allow the Council to set new spending limits of any amount, by ordinance, at any time (that means you don't get to vote on it, and probably won't even know about it).

Do away with formal competitive bidding on any project or purchase costing less than the limits set by the Council.

Currently our city charter, which you control, has predefined spending limits for purchases that can be made without formal bidding. The City Manager's approval limit is \$5,000 and the Public Works limit is \$50,000. Purchases over these set amounts require formal bidding and council approval. The higher the limit, the less public visibility there will be because purchases could be made without formal bidding and before the public has a chance to review it.

We all know that inflation has diminished spending power. If the Manager's purchasing limit needs to be raised, it should be done through a charter amendment that sets a specific (new) limit tied to an inflationary index. It should not be an undefined amount left to the whim of this or any future Council. A proposal that contains no charter limits, linked with limited voter visibility, does not provide adequate control.

At a time when trust in government is at an all-time low, we're being asked to remove a layer of checks and balances and hide what is currently open to public review. This is not the time to give our bureaucrats more spending authority with less accountability. Just say no!

VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION F.

Chris Cagle
James Allan
Thomas. M. Conroy
Karen "Hop" Tarrant
William C. Adams