

Christian Citizenship Council

"When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan." (Prov 29:2)

Kacer's Call on City Measures in San Diego County 3 November 2020 California Presidential General Election

Notes:

1. All biblical citations rely upon the ESV translation
2. How do I analyze the Measures? See my Guidelines at the end
3. Who is Frank Kacer? See short bio at the end

JURISDICTION	LETTER	MEASURE	CONSIDER	RECOMMEND
CITY OF SAN DIEGO	A	GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING. To provide permanent and supportive housing for extremely low- to low-income individuals and families, including supportive mental health and substance abuse services, for populations including veterans, seniors, the disabled, youth and the homeless, shall the City of San Diego issue up to \$900 million in general obligation bonds financed by property tax assessments estimated between approximately \$3 and \$21 per each \$100,000 of assessed valuation for fiscal years 2022 through 2068?	Bonds: wrongly presume upon the future without regard for economic uncertainties (Jam 4:13-14; Prov 22:3), steal from future generations without their consent (Ex 20:15), makes immediate financial gain preferred over prudent planning and living within existing tax burdens (Prov 13:11; 1 Tim 6:10a), must be paid off with interest independent of future impact on taxpayers with increased property tax rates, this obligation makes taxpayers "slaves" to the lenders (Prov 22:7) for decades, and bond funds will replace normally budgeted funds for the intended purposes ("bait and switch") (Prov 20:14).	NO
	B	CHARTER AMENDMENT ESTABLISHING COMMISSION ON POLICE PRACTICES. Shall the City Charter be amended to dissolve the Community Review Board on Police Practices and replace it with a Commission on Police Practices, with members appointed by the City Council, its own staff, subpoena power, independent legal counsel, and authority to investigate police officer misconduct, review complaints against officers, and make recommendations on police officer discipline, police policies, and Police Department legal compliance?	Creation of a Commission with greater authority (with subpoena power) than the existing CRB without addressing any obvious problem that cannot be resolved with existing legal avenues will only create additional burdensome oversight and authority confusion (1 Cor 14:33), increase costs, and not convincingly be able to alleviate lawsuit options still available to the community.	NO

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	C	CHARTER AMENDMENT: DISTRICT-ONLY ELECTIONS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS. Shall the Charter be amended to change the process for electing School Board members in the San Diego Unified School District, by providing that voters in individual sub-districts nominate and elect their representative in both the primary and general elections, rather than the current system in which candidates are nominated in individual sub-districts in the primary but advance to a general election in the entire School District?	Leaders representing a group of people (like a church, community, city, state) are to be appointed (elected) by those they represent. These are known the best by the ones the leader represents (Ex 18:21; Acts 14:23; 1 Tim 3:1-7) . One church does not decide who leads a different church, one city does not decide who runs a different city; likewise, people are to directly elect those that represent their concerns.	YES
	D	CHARTER AMENDMENT: PROCEDURES TO REMOVE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS FOR CAUSE AND TO FILL VACANCIES. Shall the City Charter be amended to include the office of School Board member from the San Diego Unified School District under City laws that address removal of elected officials for cause, filling vacancies in elected office, and succession to office?	Applying to School Board members procedures that are similar to those in place to remove the Mayor or City Council members is reasonable; it removes those clearly derelict in their duties, convicted of crimes, or no longer holding public confidence (Prov 20:26; Acts 1:20; 1 Cor 5:13b) .	YES
CITY OF SAN DIEGO	E	REMOVING 30-FOOT HEIGHT LIMIT IN MIDWAY-PACIFIC HIGHWAY COMMUNITY PLAN AREA. Shall People's Ordinance O-10960 be amended to exclude the Midway-Pacific Highway Community Plan area, which includes the Sports Arena, from the 30-foot height limit on buildings in the Coastal Zone, with any future development still required to comply with other governing laws?	Arguments against removing this height limitation are not compelling. Those who live in the general area should have more say in what happens in their community. Recommend no vote unless you live and/or work in the general vicinity.	NP
CITY OF CARLSBAD	G	CITY COUNCIL COMPENSATION. Shall Title 2, Chapter 2.04, Section 2.04.010(A) of the Carlsbad Municipal Code be adopted to prohibit city council compensation adjustments from exceeding the amount established by the San Diego Regional Consumer Price Index, to require the city council to either make or waive a compensation adjustment in January of each year, and to prohibit the city council from enacting retroactive increases for years in which the city council waived a compensation adjustment?	City Council is asking the city residents whether the compensation method the Council previously adopted should be formalized, and made not subject to Council unilateral changes in the future. Approval would codify what appears to be a reasonable compensation method (1 Tim 5:18) , and one that cannot be abused for personal gain (Rom 12:3a) .	YES
CITY OF ENCINITAS	H	"Shall the electors of the City of Encinitas adopt the citizen initiative titled "An Ordinance of the City of Encinitas Authorizing Commercial Cannabis Activities Involving Retail	Promoting legal Cannabis activities has not reduced the black market, or resulted in clarification of societal consequences (long term health issues, reduced initiative, impairment, etc.), or	NO

		Sales, Cultivation, Manufacturing, Cannabis Kitchens and Distribution, and Personal Use Cultivation, Subject to Certain Regulations and Restrictions.”	shown resolve to consistently enforce existing laws (Prov 22:3). Desire for tax revenue appears to outweigh individual and community damage (1 Tim 6:10a).	
CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH	I	IMPERIAL BEACH EMERGENCY RESPONSE/VITAL SERVICES MEASURE. Shall the ordinance to maintain fire protection, paramedics, 911 emergency response, prevention programs, neighborhood/community crime prevention; address homelessness; improve natural disaster/medical/emergency response; maintain streets; maintain lifeguard center, parks, community center, youth/after-school/ senior programs; other general services, by establishing a 1% sales tax providing approximately \$1,300,000 annually until ended by voters, requiring independent audits, public disclosure of spending, all funds for Imperial Beach, be adopted?	Many of the items targeted for financial support by this “transaction and use” tax are core duties of government to provide safety for its citizens (Rom 13:4; 1 Tim 2:1-2). These should be the priority in city budgets, with other activities less important to fund. Applying this revenue to current budget items will only “supplement” them until it eventually will replace what would normally have been allocated (bait and switch) (Prov 20:14). Instead of increasing the tax burden, living within means (and saving for the future) is the duty of government (Prov 13:11; 21:5).	NO
CITY OF LEMON GROVE	J	To fund general municipal expenses such as fire, safety, roads and recreation, shall the City repeal the current cannabis tax and modernize it with a new cannabis or hemp business tax at annual rates not to exceed 8% of gross receipts for retail cannabis businesses, and 4% for all other cannabis businesses; which is estimated to generate \$560,000 to \$1,120,000 annually and will be levied until repealed by the voters?	Allowing Cannabis businesses to exist is already detrimental to the safety and well-being of the community. If the purpose of the tax is to destroy Cannabis businesses in the city, this would be appropriate for the near term. If it is just to gain more tax revenue to support core government services that have not been properly prioritized over other funding lines, then this just delays making proper funding allocation decisions (Prov 13:11; 21:5). This Measure appears to be the latter and not the former.	NO
CITY OF OCEANSIDE	K	Shall the Ordinance adding Article XVII, Section 2.94 to Chapter 2 of the Oceanside City Code establishing limits of three four year terms whether consecutive or not for the offices of mayor and city council member be adopted?	Term limits attempt to prevent entrenched, special-interest driven elected officials from staying in office (Prov 17:8). Term limits reflect a public desire to ensure new leadership that is responsive to changing public concerns (Prov 11:14).	YES
	L	Shall Ordinance No. 19-OR0729-1, rezoning approximately 176.6 acres in northeastern Oceanside to implement the North River Farms project, be adopted? The current zoning is Agricultural, potentially allowing 2.5-acre minimum residential lots. Ordinance No. 19-OR0729-1 changes the zoning to Planned Development to accommodate the North River Farms project, approved by the City Council,	To accommodate a growing population, it is appropriate to allow development on new lands instead of increasing the population already occupying urbanized lands. Overpopulating existing urbanized areas often creates more societal problems (Isa 5:8). This Measure appears reasonable.	YES

		including up to 585 homes, a 24.9-acre commercial village, 68.1 acres of agriculture, and 17 acres of parks/open space.		
	M	Shall the City of Oceanside establish a Cannabis Business Tax not to exceed 6% of gross revenues for Cannabis Retailers, Manufacturers and Distributors and not to exceed 3.5% of gross revenues for Cannabis Cultivators to generate approximately \$1,900,000 annually, until voters change or repeal the tax, to fund general city services, including enforcement efforts against cannabis businesses operating illegally?	Allowing Cannabis businesses to exist is already detrimental to the safety and well-being of a community. If the purpose of the tax is to destroy Cannabis businesses in the city, this would be appropriate for the near term. If it is to gain more tax revenue to support core government services that have not been properly prioritized over other funding lines, then this just delays making proper funding allocation decisions (Prov 13:11; 21:5). This Measure appears to be the latter.	NO
CITY OF POWAY	P	“Do you approve The Farm in Poway Specific Plan as adopted by the Poway City Council to amend the General Plan and Zoning Code to allow development of a master-planned sustainable community with a maximum of 160 homes and at least 70.4 acres of permanent open space including community-serving recreational and agricultural amenities, on approximately 117.2 acres at 17166 Stoneridge Country Club Lane in the City of Poway?”	To accommodate a growing population, it is appropriate to allow development on new lands (or repurpose dilapidated areas) instead of increasing the population already occupying urbanized lands. Overpopulating existing urbanized areas often creates more societal problems (Isa 5:8). This Measure appears reasonable.	YES
CITY OF SANTEE	N	“Shall an ordinance amending the Santee General Plan requiring voter approval for development actions that would increase residential density or intensify land use over that currently permitted by the General Plan be adopted?”	Elected officials are expected to make good decisions for the benefit of the community they represent (Prov 29:2). Requiring the community to approve all perceived master plan “intensity” changes artificially restrains council’s ability to react to changing community conditions. This Measure also has legal issues due to ambiguities in language. If officials do not represent constituents’ interests, they can be replaced in elections (Acts 1:20).	NO
	Q	“Shall the measure amending the Santee Municipal Code to require that no person shall serve as an “Elected Official,” defined to include the offices of Mayor and Member of the City Council, for more than twelve years, or three terms, whichever is less, with any portion of term, whether by election or appointment, counting as a full term, be adopted?”	Term limits try to prevent special-interest driven elected officials from staying in office (Prov 17:8), and reflect a public desire to ensure leadership is responsive to changing public concerns (Prov 11:14). Q allows a <u>minimum</u> for Mayor of 4 years (with up to 8 years on City Council), and <u>max</u> up to 12 years (with no City Council experience). Measure R allows a <u>max</u> for Mayor of 8 years independent of City Council experience which could be anywhere from 0 to 12 years. Allowing significant City Council experience to prove abilities	NO
	R	“Shall an ordinance amending the Santee Municipal Code to establish a three-term lifetime limit on City Council service and a separate two-		YES

		term lifetime limit on Mayoral service, be adopted?"	to then serve significant time in higher office is prudent (Prov 22:29) and favors Measure R's approach.	
CITY OF SOLANA BEACH	S	Shall a proposed ordinance amending Solana Beach Municipal Code to Repeal Current Prohibitions Entirely and Allow Commercial Cannabis (Marijuana) Retailers in Non-Residential Zones and Marijuana Deliveries and Certain Cultivation in all Zones in the City of Solana Beach be adopted?	Allowing Cannabis businesses to exist is detrimental to the safety and well-being of the communities that host them (Prov 22:3). This Measure would authorize marijuana retailers and cultivators in Solana Beach with minimal location restrictions and no accounting for the detrimental community and individual impacts.	NO
CAJON VALLEY UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT	T	To replace outdated electrical wiring; increase internet access; upgrade fire alarms; improve student safety /campus security; and replace aging portables, shall Cajon Valley Union School District's measure to issue \$125 million in bonds be adopted, extending but not increasing the current tax rate (averaging \$13/\$100,000 of assessed valuation) and raising \$6.2 million annually until repaid with legal interest rates, annual audits, independent oversight, all funds spent locally, no money for administrators' salaries and qualifying for State reimbursement?	Bonds: wrongly presume upon the future without regard for economic uncertainties (Jam 4:13-14; Prov 22:3), takes from future generations without their consent (Ex 20:15 (stealing)), makes immediate financial gain preferred over prudent planning and living within existing tax burdens (Prov 13:11; 1 Tim 6:10a), and must be paid off with interest independent of future impact on taxpayers with increased property tax rates. This obligation makes taxpayers "slaves" to the lenders (Prov 22:7) for decades, with bond funds in all probability replacing normally budgeted funds for the same intended purposes ("bait and switch") (Prov 20:14).	NO
DEHESA SCHOOL DISTRICT	U	To improve student safety and campus security; renovate classrooms and educational facilities; increase internet access; and upgrade fire alarms and outdated electric wiring, shall Dehesa School District's measure authorizing \$3.1 million in bonds be adopted with rigorous independent oversight, annual tax rates averaging \$30.00/\$100,000 of assessed valuation (raising \$193,000/year until bonds are repaid), legal interest rates, annual audits, all funds spent locally and not taken by the state and no money for administrators' salaries?		NO
LA MESA – SPRING VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT	V	To repair old, outdated classrooms and school facilities, fix deteriorating roofs, plumbing and electrical systems, improve student safety and campus security, and upgrade classrooms, labs, facilities and technology to support achievement in science, math, reading, technology, arts and engineering, shall the La Mesa – Spring Valley School District measure authorizing \$136,000,000 in bonds at legal rates be adopted, levying approximately 2.4 cents per \$100 assessed value (\$7,879,000 annually) while bonds are		NO

		outstanding, with citizen oversight and all money staying local?		
OCEANSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	W	“To protect quality schools and upgrade aging facilities, shall Oceanside Unified School District’s measure to: upgrade classrooms for science, technology, engineering, arts, math instruction; address school earthquake, fire, health and safety standards; modernize computers and technology; and repair or replace deteriorating roofs, plumbing, electrical, heating and cooling systems; by issuing \$160,000,000 in bonds at legal rates, providing approximately \$9,100,000 annually, levying 3¢ per \$100 of assessed value while bonds are outstanding, with independent oversight and audits, be adopted?”		NO
SOUTH BAY UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT	X	Shall the Members of the South Bay Union School District Board of Trustees be limited to three (3) elected terms of office?	Term limits attempt to prevent entrenched, special-interest driven elected officials from staying in office (Prov 17:8) . Term limits reflect a public desire to ensure new leadership that is responsive to changing public concerns (Prov 11:14) .	YES
LAKESIDE FIRE PROTECTON DISTRICT	Y	Shall the Lakeside Fire Protection District measure, repealing existing yearly charges of \$10.00, replacing them with a \$25.00 special tax per benefit unit, raising approximately \$2,480,000 annually, adjusted 2% annually for inflation until repealed by voters, used for designated fire protection services and capital costs, of: Unimproved land - 2 units/acre; Farm parcel - 4 units; Single family dwelling - 4 units; Multi-family/Mobile home dwelling - 3 units; Commercial business - 10 units; Industrial business - 20 units; be adopted?	Fire protection and capitalization targeted for increased financial support by increased special unit taxes are core duties of government to provide safety for its citizens (Rom 13:4; 1 Tim 2:1-2) . These should be a priority in city budgets, with other activities less important to fund. Applying this revenue to current budget items will only supplement them until it eventually will replace what would normally have been allocated (bait and switch) (Prov 20:14) . Instead of increasing the tax burden, living within means (and saving for the future) is the duty of government (Prov 13:11; 21:5) .	NO
RINCON RANCH COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT	Z	“Shall the Rincon Ranch community services district be authorized to establish and levy a special tax override, on all taxable real property within its boundaries for the purpose of providing funds for repair and resurface of the roads maintained by the district, with this special tax not to exceed six dollars per acre, or portion thereof, plus one hundred seventy dollars per parcel of land per year?”	Infrastructure maintenance is a core duty of government for the welfare of its citizens (Rom 13:4; 1 Tim 2:1-2) . This should be a priority in city budgets, with funding for other less important activities decreased. Applying this revenue to current budget items will only supplement them until it eventually will replace what would normally have been allocated (bait and switch) (Prov 20:14) . Instead of increasing the tax burden in perpetuity, living within means (and saving for the future) is the duty of government (Prov 13:11; 21:5) .	NO

<p style="text-align: center;">VALLEY CENTER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AA</p>	<p>VALLEY CENTER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROTECTION MEASURE To maintain/improve local fire protection/ emergency medical services and wildfire/natural disaster preparedness/response; recruit/retain firefighters/paramedics; build a fire station to improve response times; replace aging equipment; shall Valley Center Fire Protection District's measure levying 6¢ per square foot of improved residential property, \$49 per unimproved parcel, with different rates for other property types, providing \$820,000 annually for local use, until ended by voters; with senior exemptions and independent oversight, be adopted?</p>	<p>Firefighting is a core duty of government for the welfare of its citizens (Rom 13:4; 1 Tim 2:1-2). This should be a priority in budgets, with funding for other less important activities decreased. Tax increases into perpetuity only increases taxpayers' burdens (1 Tim 6:10a), and relieves pressure for government to address the waste in other budget areas. Allocation of special taxes also may end up replacing funds that would have normally been allocated thru the budgeting process (bait and switch) (Prov 20:14)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 24px;">NO</p>
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General Guidelines I Follow in Analyzing Measures:

- **Do:** Read Summary, then proposed legal text, then Legislative Analyst analysis; then arguments for & against
- **Do:** Ask yourself if this is a proper role of government biblically
- **Do:** Determine what general principles apply (biblical, conservative, practical)
- **Do:** Ask yourself if this is the right thing to do, who benefits, and what consequences will result
- **Do:** Apply common sense; come to a tentative conclusion – compare to positions of those you trust
- **Do:** Concentrate on the major implications and not on trivial aspects to make a decision
- **Don't:** Rely on recommendations of organizations by name only (Could be deceptively misleading)
- **Don't:** Wait until the last day to do your research (spread it out over time)
- **Don't:** Support government going into future debt (there are only very rare exceptions to this)
- **Don't:** Allow rare circumstances or emotional arguments to overly influence (“rare cases make bad law”)
- **Don't:** Support anything that's too complex to completely understand (could be purposeful obfuscation)
- **Don't:** Accept a lot of bad for the sake of a small amount of “worthwhile” good

Who is Frank Kacer?

Frank has been married to Lynn for 47 years and has three married children and five grandchildren. He has served as a pastor/elder at Grace Bible Church since 1990 and is now pastor/elder emeritus. Professionally, Frank was a physicist in the Department of Defense Intelligence Community for over 35 years and was also a senior systems engineer with SAIC for 12 years. As a Christian worldview political activist, Frank has engaged in grass-roots political activism, candidate recruitment and assessment, precinct operations, and formal political party representation both locally and with state conventions. He has also served for seven years on the Board of Directors for the National Center for Law and Policy and currently serves as the Director of Research, Content and Curriculum for Well Versed ministries. As Founder and Executive Director of the Christian Citizenship Council (C3), Frank has published his “Kacer’s Call” biblical perspective on every California statewide Proposition since 2002. His most recent book is *Christian Fratricide – Why Christians Continue to be Divided Politically* (Updated Edition 2020).

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Measure analysis is located at: <http://christiancitizenshipcouncil.blogspot.com/>