

CITY OF RICHMOND
IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE ____

Measure ____ has been placed on the ballot by a voter initiative petition. Measure ____ would amend the Richmond City Charter to require the City to set aside a portion of the City’s annual actual unrestricted general purpose revenues (as defined in the Measure) (“General Fund”) to be deposited into a special fund (“Fund”).

The City would be required to use the Fund for services provided to children and youth (birth to 18 years old) and their caregivers, disconnected transitional-aged youth (as defined in the Measure) and their caregivers. The Measure requires the City to establish a Department of Children and Youth (“Department”) within the City Manager’s Office, which would be responsible for administering the fund. Non-profit organizations and public agencies are eligible to receiving money from the Fund. However, public agencies cannot receive more than twenty percent (20%) of the amount awarded in any fiscal year.

The Measure contains references to specific dates that have passed. Accordingly, an unresolved legal question is how the Measure can be properly implemented in accordance with its current language.

The Measure states that from January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017, the City was to set aside \$250,000 from its General Fund for establishing and supporting the Fund and the Department. For fiscal year 2017-18, the City was required to set aside \$700,000 from its General Fund for the Fund and Department. Thereafter, the City is required to set aside the following amounts from its General Fund for the Fund:

Fiscal Year: 2018-2019 – One Percent (1%)

2019-2020 – Two Percent (2%)

2020-2021(and each fiscal year thereafter through FY 2026-2027)
– Three Percent (3%)

The Measure allows for a reduction in the amount of General Fund money allocated to the Fund in the event of a decrease in the General Fund in any given fiscal year by greater than ten percent (10%). The allocation must return to the required level once the fiscal emergency no longer exists.

The City Council may extend the Measure for additional ten-year terms by a simple majority vote. If the City Council does not extend the Measure before June 30, 2026, it must place the Measure on the November 2026 election ballot for voter approval to extend the Measure term for an additional ten years. This process is repeated every ten years until the voters elect not to reauthorize the Measure.

A fifteen member Oversight Board would be appointed by the City Council (2 appointments per Councilmember) and Mayor (three appointments). The Oversight Board would be responsible for developing Fund policies, monitoring the administration of the Fund, working with the Department on a Fund Strategic Investment Plan (defined in the Measure), reviewing funding applications and reporting to the City Council on funding recommendations and evaluations.

The Measure allows the City Council to pass enabling legislation to implement the Fund. Otherwise, the Measure may only be amended or repealed by the voters.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Reed Goodmiller, City Attorney

THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS AN IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE __. IF YOU DESIRE A COPY OF THE INITIATIVE, PLEASE CALL THE RICHMOND CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 510-620-6509 AND A COPY WILL BE MAILED AT NO COST TO YOU.