



BOARD MEETING AGENDA SUBMITTAL

TO: **GCSD Board of Directors**

FROM: **Peter J. Kampa, General Manager**

DATE: **April 12, 2022**

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 6E: Adoption of a Resolution Opposing Initiative 21-0042A1, A Proposition Aimed for November 2022 Statewide Ballot that Would Undermine Voter Rights and Jeopardize Local Services**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

I move to adopt resolution 15-2022 opposing Initiative 21-0042A1, a proposition aimed for November 2022 statewide ballot that would undermine voter rights and jeopardize local services.

BACKGROUND:

On Friday April 1, 2022, General Manager Pete Kampa attended the CSDA Legislative Committee meeting. He was informed of proposition 21-0042A1 that is a developer-sponsored proposition aimed for the November 2022 statewide ballot that would undermine voter rights and significantly jeopardize local agencies' ability to provide essential services and infrastructure for residents. The measure is being pushed by millions of dollars in contributions from developers and the California Business Roundtable, an association that represents developers, oil companies, pharmaceutical companies, and other wealthy corporations.

Unless defeated, the measure puts billions of dollars currently dedicated to state and local services at-risk and could force cuts to public schools, fire and emergency response, law enforcement, public health, parks, libraries, affordable housing, services to support homeless residents, mental health services, and more.

The measure:

- Limits voter rights, transparency, and accountability.**

- The measure would limit voter input by prohibiting local advisory measures, where voters provide direction to politicians on how they want their local tax dollars spent.
 - It changes our constitution to make it more difficult for local voters to pass measures needed to fund local services and local infrastructure.
 - It also includes a provision that would retroactively cancel measures that were passed by local voters — effectively undermining the rights of voters to decide for themselves what their communities need.

- **Jeopardizes vital local and state services.**
 - The measure puts at risk billions of dollars currently dedicated to critical state and local services.
 - It could force cuts to public schools, fire and emergency response, law enforcement, public health, parks, libraries, affordable housing, services to support homeless residents, mental health services, and more.
 - It would also reduce funding for critical infrastructure like streets and roads, public transportation, drinking water, new schools, sanitation, utilities, and more.
- **Opens the door for frivolous lawsuits, bureaucracy, and red tape that will cost taxpayers and hurt our communities.**
 - The measure will encourage frivolous lawsuits, bureaucracy, and red tape that will cost local taxpayers millions — while significantly delaying and stopping investments in infrastructure and vital services.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

No cost for this specific action

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution 15-2022
2. Vote to Oppose Deceptive Proposition Letter

RESOLUTION 15-2022

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GROVELAND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT OPPOSING INITIATIVE 21-0042A1

WHEREAS, an association representing California's wealthiest corporations and developers is spending millions to push a deceptive proposition aimed for the November 2022 statewide ballot; and

WHEREAS, the proposed proposition, Initiative 21-0042A1, has received the official title: "LIMITS ABILITY OF VOTERS AND STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO RAISE REVENUES FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT."

WHEREAS, the measure includes provisions that would make it more difficult for local voters to pass measures needed to fund local services and infrastructure, and would limit voter input by prohibiting local advisory measures where voters provide direction on how they want their local tax dollars spent; and

WHEREAS, the measure exposes taxpayers to a new wave of costly litigation, limits the discretion and flexibility of locally elected boards to respond to the needs of their communities, and injects uncertainty into the financing and sustainability of critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the measure severely restricts state and local officials' ability to protect our environment, public health and safety, and our neighborhoods against corporations and others who violate the law; and

WHEREAS, the measure creates new constitutional loopholes that would allow corporations to pay less than their fair share for the impacts they impose on our communities, including local infrastructure, our environment, water quality, air quality, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the measure threatens billions of dollars currently dedicated to state and local services, and could force cuts to Groveland CSD's Water Distribution, Wastewater Collection and Treatment, Fire Department, Parks and Recreation, as well as public schools, county fire and emergency response, law enforcement, public health, parks, libraries, affordable housing, services to address homelessness, mental health services, and more; and

WHEREAS, the measure would also reduce funding for critical infrastructure like streets and roads, public transportation, ports, drinking water, sanitation, utilities, and more.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Groveland Community Services District opposes Initiative 21-0042A1;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Groveland Community Services District will join the No on Initiative 21-0042A1 Coalition, a growing coalition of public safety, labor, local government, infrastructure advocates, and other organizations throughout the state.

We direct staff to email a copy of this adopted resolution to the California Special Districts Association at advocacy@csda.net and to prepare and publish a final press release stating this position.

WHEREFORE, this Resolution is passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District on April 12, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT

APPROVE:

Spencer Edwards, President - Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Rachel Pearlman, Board Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, Rachel Pearlman, the duly appointed and acting Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District, do hereby declare that the foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District, duly called and held on April 12, 2022.

DATED: _____

[REDACTED]

For immediate release:

First Name Last Name, sample@email.com
(XXX) XXX-XXXX

[NAME OF DISTRICT/ORGANIZATION] Votes to Oppose Deceptive Proposition

Aimed for November 2022 Statewide Ballot that Would Undermine Voter Rights and Jeopardize Local Services

[CITY]– On [DATE] the [NAME OF DISTRICT/ORGANIZATION] voted XX-XX to oppose Initiative 21-0042A1, a deceptive, developer-sponsored proposition aimed for the November 2022 statewide ballot that would undermine voter rights and significantly jeopardize local agencies' ability to provide essential services and infrastructure for residents. The measure is being pushed by millions of dollars in contributions from developers and the California Business Roundtable, an association that represents developers, oil companies, pharmaceutical companies, and other wealthy corporations.

“This far-reaching proposition would give wealthy corporations a new constitutional loophole to avoid paying their fair share for the impacts they have on our communities, including on our environment, infrastructure, and local services,” said [NAME AND TITLE]. “It contains undemocratic provisions that would make it more difficult for local voters to pass measures needed to fund critical services and would limit voter input by prohibiting local advisory measures where voters provide direction on how they want their tax dollars spent.”

[NAME OF DISTRICT/ORGANIZATION] joins a fast-growing coalition, including the California Special Districts Association, League of California Cities, California Professional Firefighters, California Alliance for Jobs, SEIU California, and AFSCME California.

Unless defeated, the measure puts billions of dollars currently dedicated to state and local services at-risk and could force cuts to public schools, fire and emergency response, law enforcement, public health, parks, libraries, affordable housing, services to support homeless residents, mental health services, and more. The measure:

- **Limits voter rights, transparency, and accountability.**
 - The measure would limit voter input by prohibiting local advisory measures, where voters provide direction to politicians on how they want their local tax dollars spent.
 - It changes our constitution to make it more difficult for local voters to pass measures needed to fund local services and local infrastructure.
 - It also includes a provision that would retroactively cancel measures that were passed by local voters — effectively undermining the rights of voters to decide for themselves what their communities need.

- **Jeopardizes vital local and state services.**
 - The measure puts at risk billions of dollars currently dedicated to critical state and local services.
 - It could force cuts to public schools, fire and emergency response, law enforcement, public health, parks, libraries, affordable housing, services to support homeless residents, mental health services, and more.
 - It would also reduce funding for critical infrastructure like streets and roads, public transportation, drinking water, new schools, sanitation, utilities, and more.
- **Opens the door for frivolous lawsuits, bureaucracy, and red tape that will cost taxpayers and hurt our communities.**
 - The measure will encourage frivolous lawsuits, bureaucracy, and red tape that will cost local taxpayers millions — while significantly delaying and stopping investments in infrastructure and vital services.

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