

**CITY OF MORGAN HILL
MEASURE B**

Shall the measure to have the term of office for the directly elected Mayor of Morgan Hill be four years rather than the current two years be adopted?

Yes
No

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

The Morgan Hill City Council is made up of five members, four councilmembers representing separate council districts and a directly elected mayor, who is elected at-large. Under current law, councilmembers each serve four-year terms, while the mayor serves two-year terms.

If approved, the measure would amend the Morgan Hill Municipal Code to extend the mayoral term from two years to four years beginning with the election in November 2026.

This measure was placed on the ballot by the Morgan Hill City Council.

A "Yes" vote means that the mayoral term will be four years beginning in 2026.

A "No" vote means that the mayoral term will continue to be two years.

A majority vote is required for approval. If adopted, the measure would result in a cost savings in years without a mayoral election. For the November 2024 election, the cost to the City's General Fund for placing the mayoral position on the ballot was \$122,675.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure B. If you desire a copy of the measure, please visit <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov/> or call the City Clerk at (408)779-7271 and a copy will be mailed or e-mailed at no cost to you.

/s/ Donald Larkin
City Attorney

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE B

The mayor is required to campaign city-wide every two years, unlike the other council members who campaign only in their districts every four years.

Two-year terms for the mayor are costly and inequitable. The cost to the city every time the mayor appears on the ballot is approximately \$123,000.

Implementing a standard 4-year term like that of the other council members allows that individual the opportunity to concentrate on policy and community concerns as opposed to constant fundraising and campaigning.

Nearly every city in Santa Clara County, where the mayor is an elected position, serves a four-year term.

Having the mayor's position on a four-year cycle, like that of other council members, allows for greater effectiveness in the role, continuity of leadership, and consistency on the council.

For the sake of consistency and cost savings to the city and taxpayers, I urge you to vote "Yes" on extending the mayor's term to four years.

Mark Turner
Mayor, Morgan Hill

Nicholas Angelo Gaich
CEO, President Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE B

The Mayor stands as the sole member of Morgan Hill's City Council elected 'at large', contrasting the other Councilmembers who secure their seats through votes from their respective Districts.

The biennial election of the Mayor, currently in practice, guarantees that all Morgan Hill voters can partake in our City Council elections every two years, irrespective of their City Council district's election cycle.

The existing election system for the Mayor's position in Morgan Hill serves its purpose deliberately.

Extending the Mayor's term to four years would significantly decrease voter engagement in our City Council elections.

Residents of the two Council districts without an election in a given year would be excluded from shaping the composition of our City Council, as regular Councilmembers are elected every four years by their district's voters.

Implementing a two-year term limit for the Mayor fosters healthy competition, as Councilmembers not up for re-election could participate in the Mayor's race without having to choose between running for Mayor or running for regular Councilmember.

In light of this, we urge you to vote 'No' on extending the Mayor's term to four years.

Rene Spring
City Council Member District C

Armando Benavides
Attorney at Law

Joseph Baranowski
Citizen of Morgan Hill

Steven P. Chappell