

Rebuttal To Argument In Favor Of Measure ____

Don't be fooled. This charter is about three politicians who want freedom from the Rule of Law, not freedom from "Sacramento."

Charter proponents rely on the same tired arguments that we rejected in 2012. This charter's an even worse power grab. There's no need -- much less a convincing need -- to change the system of government that's served us well for over 61 years.

- This charter empowers three politicians to concoct laws benefiting special interest groups (developers and contractors). Reasonable limitations proposed by our City Attorney were rejected.
- This charter lacks common protections like an independent audit and an ethics code and would allow gifts of public funds.
- This charter exposes taxpayers to favoritism, fraud, and corruption, which plague charter cities like Bell, Stockton and Temple City.
- This charter would cost Costa Mesa Millions in lost State funding for street improvements and public buildings. We would lose money, not save money.
- This charter includes the COIN ordinance, which Orange County Supervisor Todd Spitzer called a "farce of transparency."
- This charter would not decrease our pension debt by one penny, but negotiating increased employee contributions would be more difficult -- costing us Millions. Newport Beach, a charter city, has the highest pension debt per person in Orange County.

This charter doesn't empower *the citizens of Costa Mesa*; it grants unbridled power to *three politicians* who have squandered our tax dollars on legal fees, enriched developers, and crippled our police force.

Enough already!

Vote NO on Measure ____ AGAIN!!

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