

## Argument in Favor of Measure BB

Measure BB proposes changes to the Piedmont City Charter. The last major Charter revision was in 1980. Many changes remove outdated language, ensure the Charter is consistent with current practices and make the City's political processes more open and transparent. These changes, such as the posting of city notices and record keeping, reflect new technology and modern practices. Much has changed since 1980.

The Charter currently stipulates that the council meets twice monthly. Council typically meets that often and sometimes more frequently. This change sets a goal of meeting twice a month, but ensures that there is no Charter violation should an occasion arise where only one meeting is held. Further, language that allows Council members to compel attendance of other members is removed; that is neither legal or practical.

Proposed changes significantly improve the openness and transparency of the City's political processes. The amendment increases the waiting period for councilmembers that have served two full terms from four to eight years. Piedmont does not need semi-professional politicians. The City's talented residents should be encouraged to seek office. Given costs, time and resources required to run for Council, former councilmembers have an advantage. The short 4-year time frame is insufficient to mitigate this advantage. Eight years gives new people an opportunity; elections should be open, competitive and feature fresh candidates.

Filing vacancies is addressed. Currently, the Charter gives Council 30 days to replace a member. If there is no agreed replacement, the Mayor chooses the new member. These changes provide Council 60 days to select a replacement and remove the unilateral authority of the Mayor. Should the Council fail to select a replacement, a special election will be held. This change is clearly more democratic and transparent.

Vote for Measure BB

The undersigned proponents or authors of the direct argument in favor of Measure BB at the General Municipal Election for the City of Piedmont to be held on November 6, 2018, hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best of his/her/their/knowledge and belief.

Robert S. McBain  
Mayor

Tim Rood  
Councilmember

Dean Barbieri  
Former Mayor