

## Argument against Proposition G

There is no public demand for charter status – the City Council majority put it on the ballot. Not one resident spoke in favor of the change at five public comment opportunities. In 2012, Escondido voters rejected a charter city proposal. So why is it back on the ballot?

**Proposition G is a power grab**, an unnecessary and dangerous change. Like 75% of California cities, Escondido operates under General Law, which protects the taxpayer and has worked well since 1888. But a few bad decisions under a charter can result in a bankrupt Escondido. Ask San Bernardino, Vallejo, or Stockton – charter cities that went broke.

**Proposition G contains serious loopholes and weaknesses.** There is no reason to rewrite our city's constitution and grant broad and unrestrained new powers to the City Council.

Charter status:

- **Gives unchecked power** to as few as three Council members.
- Despite its claims of local control, charter status **does not exempt Escondido from Sacramento's state mandates**.
- **Removes the General Law requirement for a balanced city budget**.
- Encourages back-room **secret deals and favoritism** by allowing contracts without competitive bidding or assuring competence of contractors.
- Allows the Council to **give taxpayer funds to special interests** with no conditions attached.
- Empowers the City Council to **increase its own pay and compensation package**.
- **Allows the City Council to override zoning** by granting conditional use permits, ignoring the will of the citizens who passed the General Plan.
- Requires frequent **costly elections** – \$50,000 to \$75,000 each time – to change.
- Could lead to **expensive litigation** because charter law is unsettled.

Becoming a charter city will shift power from the people of Escondido into the hands of a few powerful politicians.

**Escondido does not need a new constitution!**

**Vote “NO” – again -- on Charter City.**

Learn more: [www.escondidocharterwatch.org](http://www.escondidocharterwatch.org)

## ARGUMENT/REBUTTAL SIGNATURES

(The following statement is required by California Elections Code Section 9600.)

Direct

argument \_\_\_\_\_

Against

ballot proposition

Direct OR Rebuttal to the

at the General Municipal Election for the City of Escondido to be held on November 4, 2014 hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

THUR his/her/their

2014 AUG 11 PM 2:55

NAME (Signature): <u>Sid J. Berk</u>		NAME (Signature): <u>Sid J. Berk</u>	NAME (Signature): <u>Lucy J. Berk</u>	NAME (Signature): <u>Lucy J. Berk</u>	
(Print): <u>Sid J. Berk</u>		(Print): <u>Sid J. Berk</u>	(Print): <u>Lucy J. Berk</u>	(Print): <u>Lucy J. Berk</u>	
*TITLE (Optional): <u>FORMER MAYOR/TZ-YR PRESIDENT</u>		*TITLE (Optional): <u>HISTORIAN/PRESERVATIONIST</u>			
ADDRESS: <u>[REDACTED]</u>		ADDRESS: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	ADDRESS: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	ADDRESS: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	
DATE: <u>8-9-14</u>	PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	DATE: <u>8/1/14</u>	PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	DATE: <u>8-09-2014</u>	
NAME (Signature): <u>John E. Valdés</u>	NAME (Signature): <u>John E. Valdés</u>	NAME (Signature): <u>John E. Valdés</u>	NAME (Signature): <u>John E. Valdés</u>	NAME (Signature): <u>John E. Valdés</u>	
(Print): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	(Print): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	(Print): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	(Print): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	(Print): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	
*TITLE (Optional): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	*TITLE (Optional): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	*TITLE (Optional): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	*TITLE (Optional): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	*TITLE (Optional): <u>Professor, Parham College</u>	
ADDRESS: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	ADDRESS: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	ADDRESS: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	ADDRESS: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	ADDRESS: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	
DATE: <u>8/8/14</u>	PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	DATE: <u>8/8/14</u>	PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	DATE: <u>8/8/14</u>	PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>
<b>NOTE</b> Registrar of Voters policy does not allow candidates, campaign managers, campaign treasurers, argument or rebuttal signers of ballot measures or members of their immediate family to host a polling place or act as a poll worker in the jurisdiction in which the candidacy or ballot measure of the interested party is being voted upon.					

## ARGUMENT/REBUTTAL SIGNATURES

(The following statement is required by California Elections Code Section 9600.)

The undersigned authors of the DIRECT argument \_\_\_\_\_

Direct OR Rebuttal to the

at the General Municipal Election for the City of Escondido to be held on November 4, 2014 hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best of THEIR knowledge and belief.

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*G*  
ballot proposition  
City of Escondido  
letter  
In favor of OR Against  
City Clerk's Office

NAME (Signature): (Print):  *TITLE (Optional): ADDRESS:  DATE: <u>Aug 11, 2014</u> PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	NAME (Signature): (Print):  *TITLE (Optional): ADDRESS:  DATE: <u>8/11/14</u> PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	NAME (Signature): (Print):  *TITLE (Optional): ADDRESS:  DATE: <u>8/11/14</u> PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	NAME (Signature): (Print):  *TITLE (Optional): ADDRESS:  DATE: <u>8/11/14</u> PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	<b>NOTE</b>  Registrar of Voters policy does not allow candidates, campaign managers, campaign treasurers, argument or rebuttal signs of ballot measures or members of their immediate family to host a polling place or act as a poll worker in the jurisdiction in which the candidacy or ballot measure of the interested party is being voted upon.
NAME (Signature): (Print):  *TITLE (Optional): ADDRESS:  DATE: <u>8/11/14</u> PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	NAME (Signature): (Print):  *TITLE (Optional): ADDRESS:  DATE: <u>8/11/14</u> PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	NAME (Signature): (Print):  *TITLE (Optional): ADDRESS:  DATE: <u>8/11/14</u> PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	NAME (Signature): (Print):  *TITLE (Optional): ADDRESS:  DATE: <u>8/11/14</u> PHONE: <u>[REDACTED]</u>	

- \* If provided, this title may be printed in the Sample Ballot/Voter Information Pamphlet.