

[Argument In Favor of Charter Initiative]

Voting YES to make Escondido a Charter city, empowers our citizens to take control of our city, protect taxpayers, and prevent Sacramento from wasting our tax dollars.

After careful study, the City Council voted to ask our residents to choose to become a charter city subject to our state Constitution's "home rule" provisions. These provisions are based on the concept that residents of a city, rather than state legislators, best know their city's needs. As a charter city, power over city matters is transferred from the state to our residents through their elected representatives.

Sacramento politicians have confiscated city resources to pay for the billion-dollar deficits they've created, while creating unfunded mandates on our local government. State lawmakers have imposed numerous statutes governing uncharted cities which reflect the values of a majority in the legislature, not necessarily a majority in Escondido, which is the reason that more than one-half of the state's population has chosen to adopt charters for their cities.

The charter:

- Transfers power away from Sacramento, into the hands of Escondido residents-where it belongs.
- Saves millions in tax dollars, requiring competitive bidding for services and ensure fair and open competition for all public projects.
- Prohibits City councilmembers from unilaterally raising their own salaries.
- Keeps your tax dollars local, by protecting city revenues from diversion by the state.
- Preserves all existing anti-corruption laws, ensuring open, honest government.

Voters in Carlsbad, Oceanside, Vista, San Marcos, Del Mar, Santee, and San Diego have chosen to become Charter cities. Now it's our turn. By joining these cities and the majority of California's citizens, Escondido's voters will claim their right to self-government through home-rule. Vote YES to put Escondido's priorities ahead of Sacramento's.

YES to local control. YES to taxpayer protection. YES to the Escondido Charter.

www.charterEscondido.com

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