CITY OF ESCONDIDO

MEASURE G

CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

All California cities are either general law cities or charter cities. Measure \underline{G} proposes the adoption of a charter for the City of Escondido. Measure \underline{G} was placed on the ballot by the City Council, the governing body of the City.

Escondido is presently a general law city, subject to all applicable provisions of state law. If Measure G passes, Escondido will become a charter city and will be able to exercise greater control over matters of local concern. The charter would serve as the City's constitution and would provide the City with the authority permitted by law to control its municipal affairs. A city charter is subject only to conflicting provisions in the state or federal constitutions and preemptive state laws.

The full text of the charter is included in the ballot pamphlet. The following summarizes the key provisions of the proposed charter:

The City is granted all powers that may be lawfully exercised by a charter city over its municipal affairs. All local laws not in conflict with the charter remain in effect unless repealed, amended, changed or superseded.

The existing Council-Manager form of government and the elective officers of the City will not change. The City Council will set duties and compensation of the City Treasurer by ordinance. The charter will repeal Proposition N which formerly established the City Treasurer's duties and salary.

The composition of the City Council and the terms of the elected officers will not change. The salaries of the Mayor and Councilmembers will continue to be set by state law which does not require voter approval. The City Council can fill vacant elective offices within sixty days by appointment or by calling for an election. The proposed charter states the City will promote fair and open competition for all City construction projects. The charter prohibits the City from deducting political contributions from the wages of City employees. The charter requires the City to continue to follow state law in land use, planning and zoning matters.

In the future, the charter may be adopted, amended or repealed by majority vote of the electorate.

A "yes" vote will be in favor of adopting the charter.

A "ne" vote will be opposed to adopting the charter.

Jeffrey R. Epp City Attorney <u>∜-//-14</u> Date