



# PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## LAGUNA NIGUEL CITY COUNCIL TAKES POSITION ON KEY 2020 BALLOT MEASURES

**Laguna Niguel, CA** – On Tuesday, October 6, 2020, the Laguna Niguel City Council unanimously voted in opposition to Proposition 16, “Allows Diversity as a Factor in Public Employment, Education, and Contracting Decisions.” Proposition 16 aims to allow universities and government offices to factor in someone’s race, gender, or ethnicity in making hiring, spending, and admissions decisions. Mayor Laurie Davies stated, “Laguna Niguel has a long-standing belief that people should be treated equally regardless of race, gender, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin. Proposition 16 seeks to undermine our City’s long-standing belief that all people are equal under the law.”

Additionally, on February 18, 2020 the Laguna Niguel City Council took position on the “Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2020” ballot measure (now known as Proposition 20) and the “Schools and Local Communities Funding Act (Split Roll)” ballot measure (now known as Proposition 15). The City Council unanimously voted to support Proposition 20 and oppose Proposition 15.

Proposition 20 “Restricts Parole for Certain Offenses Currently Considered to be Non-Violent, Authorizes Felony Sentences for Certain Offenses Currently Treated only as Misdemeanors”, closes the current loophole in the state’s Penal Code that allows egregious crimes such as sex trafficking of children, felony assault with a deadly weapon, rape of an unconscious person, battery on a police officer or firefighter and felony domestic violence. Mayor Laurie Davies stated, “Proposition 20 will keep California safe by creating solutions to the negative consequences created by Proposition 57 (2016), Proposition 47 (2014) and Assembly Bill 109 (2011). Approval will ensure that offenders of egregious crimes are not prematurely released back into communities throughout the state.”

Proposition 15, “Increases Funding Sources for Public Schools, Community Colleges, and Local Government Services by Changing Tax Assessment of Commercial and Industrial Property”, repeals taxpayer protections outlined in Proposition 13 (1978) by taxing commercial properties at current market value instead of the purchase price. “Proposition 15 is nothing but a property tax increase on California commercial and industrial businesses; one of which will undoubtedly trickledown to our Laguna Niguel business tenants through increases in rent and fees, and to our local consumers in the form of increased costs for goods and services”, said Mayor Laurie Davies.

The November 3, 2020 election will feature a total of twelve (12) statewide ballot measures, including Proposition 15, Proposition 16 and Proposition 20, that will be decided by voters from across the state of California. For more information on each of the 12 ballot measures, please visit: <https://voterguide.sos.ca.gov/propositions/>

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