

Rebuttal to Argument Against DDD – Redistricting

Vote Yes on Measure DDD and create an Independent Redistricting Commission.

Ballot arguments should truthfully inform the voters. Unfortunately, the argument opposing Measure DDD does not give you the facts. The opposition falsely argues that the Mayor controls the Citizens Redistricting Commission. Wrong. Measure DDD explicitly keeps control out of the hands of politicians. The Mayor and City Council have no say in how boundaries are drawn and no ability to review, let alone overturn, the Commission's work.

Measure DDD expressly prohibits gerrymandering. It also contains clear priorities that a newly empowered and independent citizens redistricting commission must observe to keep existing neighborhoods and communities of interest in one district.

The opposition claims that an Ethics Commission "hand-picked by the mayor" appoints Commissioners but doesn't tell you that the Ethics Commission would have a very limited role in picking members of the Redistricting Commission. The Ethics Commission randomly picks nine candidates who have already been prescreened by the nonpartisan City Clerk. These nine, one from each Council District, would then pick an additional four to ensure the Commission "reasonably reflects the City's diversity." That's fair.

Don't be fooled. If DDD fails, we go right back to politicians drawing their own districts!

Good government organizations like Common Cause and the League of Women Voters created our State Redistricting Commission that ended the manipulation of congressional and state legislative districts for political advantage. They endorse DDD because it is real reform that puts the interests of Long Beach voters first, not politicians. Vote "YES" on DDD.

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