

Can we trust an Ethics Commission that is not independent? Sure, if we can trust **the fox guarding the henhouse!**

The Mayor claims that we need an independent Ethics Commission to ensure our government follows ethics laws. But the Mayor and Auditor get to select the commission members who are supposed to be checking on themselves!

This measure is fatally flawed, a self-serving document written by politicians for politicians. It will allow the Mayor and Auditor to pick "insiders" to serve on this Commission. It does absolutely nothing to advance public trust in local government.

As proposed, the Ethics Commission **cannot be trusted** to be an impartial and effective overseer of campaign financing, lobbying, conflicts of interest and governmental ethics. It reports findings only to the people it's supposed to be watching over. The Commission can implement but not enforce governmental ethics.

This measure, as written, **WOULD NOT:**

- ✓ Prevent policy actions like the 2002 pension spike.
- ✓ Provide protection against the huge sums of money being spent on our local "non-partisan" elections.
- ✓ Stop developer, lobbyist, corporate, and union relationships with elected officials that generously fund campaigns and special interests.
- ✓ Prevent abuses like tripling their contributor-funded office-holder accounts (2015) and using them to elect their friends to political offices (2017) for political gain.

This ethics measure does NOT ensure greater transparency. It did NOT come from the public. While lobbyists and special interests have easy access to the Mayor and Council, the public is limited to a mere 2-3 minutes each council meeting. And, in some cases, none at all.

Vote NO on the unethical Ethics Commission!

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