

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE E

The title: "*Establish a Police Oversight Commission and add a Police Oversight Director*" is dishonest.

FACT: Long Beach already has a Police Oversight Commission. It is called the Citizen Police Complaint Commission (CPCC) and is comprised of members of the public.

FACT: The CPCC empowered citizen commissioners to investigate complaints, subpoena witnesses and documents, swear witnesses, hold hearings, make findings, and recommend dispositions to the City Manager.

FACT: Instead of strengthening the existing system, Measure E will abolish civilian oversight and turn our citizen commissioners' into irrelevant community liaison lackeys.

FACT: The addition of a Police Oversight Director is bait-and-switch; the Director is a city employee hired and fired by the City Council rather than citizen commissioners.

FACT: This "director" is restricted to conducting investigations of high-ranking LBPD officers and "other critical incidents" – ONLY IF authorized by the City Manager.

FACT: The director is allowed to conduct specified audits ONLY, "observe" limited police investigations and report ONLY to the Council.

FACT: The 32-year old CPCC could be more effective. Political meddling insured the commission became a toothless paper tiger.

FACT: City Hall can put the teeth back into the tiger by removing the false barriers put in their way while a more effective - tamper-proof - Charter Amendment is developed for the next election.

FACT: Measure E robs the public of a vital role in police oversight under the pretext of legitimate calls for reform.

The electorate established the CPCC in 1990 following a horrific police brutality scandal. The calls for reform – like those following the George Floyd murder – are being overturned rather than strengthened.

Send a message to City Hall: Don't kill civilian oversight. Fix it.

Vote NO on Measure E.