

Resolution Opposing Oceanside City Council Majority to convert from elected offices to appointed positions of City Clerk and City Treasurer

WHEREAS on August 21, 2019, the Oceanside City Council majority proposed to convert the City Clerk and City Treasurer from elected to appointive positions, and placed this as a ballot measure on the March 3, 2020, municipal election ballot; and

WHEREAS appointive City Clerk and City Treasurer represents a significant threat to the people's choice of elected representatives of Oceanside city government, the long-standing democratic principles of Oceanside, the importance of publicly elected "watchdogs" as part of city government, and in fact the California Democratic Party's platform has long opposed eliminating important elected offices in all jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS one-third of City Treasurers statewide and one-fourth of City Clerks statewide remain as elected offices, and must remain as elected offices, if the various governments statewide are to have any hope of staving off a stranglehold on our democracy by deep-pocketed special interest groups, while continuing to advocate for more cities to convert their appointive positions of City Clerk and/or City Treasurer to join our ranks of elected offices, and thus increasing our democracy as well as the number of publicly elected watchdogs while preserving those we already have;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Club of Carlsbad and Oceanside demands that DEMCCO's board and members of our esteemed organization take all necessary steps within their powers to protect and defend Oceanside's voters and their interests from any conversions of elected offices into appointive positions which reduce our representative government. Thus, we all need to unite and mount a city-wide campaign to defeat this coming ballot measure which will appear on the March 3, 2020, Oceanside municipal election ballot.

Author: Victor Roy, the currently elected City Treasurer of the City of Oceanside

Approved by DEMCCO on September 28, 2019

Linda Slater, President

PLEASE NOTE: The ballot measure will read approximately as follows: "Shall the City Clerk and City Treasurer be appointive positions by the City Manager?"