



# City of Citrus Heights

Office of the City Clerk  
6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621  
Tel: (916) 727-4704 • Fax: (916) 725-5799  
Email: [avan@citrusheights.net](mailto:avan@citrusheights.net) • Website: [www.citrusheights.net](http://www.citrusheights.net)

## FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERSONS WISHING TO SUBMIT ARGUMENTS AND REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS FOR MEASURES ON THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL MUNICIPAL BALLOT

**ARGUMENT PERIOD OPENS:** 8:00 A.M., July 24, 2020  
**DEADLINE FOR FILING ARGUMENTS:** 5:00 P.M., August 6, 2020

**REBUTTAL ARGUMENT PERIOD OPENS:** 8:00 A.M., August 7, 2020  
**DEADLINE FOR FILING REBUTTALS:** 5:00 P.M., August 17, 2020

Arguments for or against ballot measures shall not exceed 300 words in length. Rebuttal Arguments for or against ballot measures shall not exceed 250 words in length. (EC 9282, 9285) Refer to the “Word Count Standards” section prior to filing your argument. The heading and signature(s) blocks are not included in the word count. The following statement, as applicable, must be printed as the heading of the argument:

Argument in Favor of Measure \_\_\_\_\_  
Argument Against Measure \_\_\_\_\_  
Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure \_\_\_\_\_  
Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure \_\_\_\_\_

If more than one argument is submitted on a measure, the City Clerk shall select the argument and shall give preference in accordance with Elections Code Section 9287, in the order named, to arguments of the following:

- a. The legislative body, or member or members of the legislative body authorized by that body.
- b. The individual voter, or bona fide association of citizens, or combination of voters and associations, who are the bona fide sponsors or proponents of the measure.
- c. Bona fide associations of citizens.
- d. Individual voters who are eligible to vote on the measure.

Please review the attached procedure for selecting arguments to be printed if more than one argument from the same level of standing is submitted.

Each ballot argument must be accompanied by the printed name(s) and signatures(s) of the person or persons submitting it or, if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization and the **printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers.** (EC 9283)

No more than five signatures shall appear with any argument. In case any argument is signed by more than five persons, the signatures of the first five shall be printed. (EC 9283)

All arguments shall be accompanied by the required signature form. All signors for primary arguments and rebuttal arguments must complete a signature form. A separate signature form is required for the rebuttal argument even if the same signor completed a form for the primary argument. (EC 9600)

The City Clerk, upon receipt of arguments and after the filing deadline, will immediately transmit copies to any known opposing parties who may then submit rebuttals within the time period shown above. (EC 9285)

Arguments may be changed or withdrawn up to 5:00 p.m., on August 6, 2020. Rebuttal arguments may be changed or withdrawn up to 5:00 p.m., on August 17, 2020. **Proponents are urged to submit their arguments prior to the deadline to ensure an opportunity for the City Clerk to review and for authors to have an opportunity to make any necessary changes.**

Pursuant to Elections Code 9285 the author or a majority of the authors of an argument relating to a city measure may prepare and submit a rebuttal argument or may authorize in writing any other person or persons to prepare, submit, or sign the rebuttal argument.

Arguments/rebuttals must be typed or printed. Hand written arguments will not be accepted. If prepared on a computer, please submit your argument/rebuttal electronically in addition to the required hard copy.

Please contact the City Clerk at 916-727-4704 or [avan@citrusheights.net](mailto:avan@citrusheights.net) if you have any questions regarding this process.

Attachments:

1. Signature Form for Proponents Filing Primary Arguments
2. Signature Form for Proponents Filing Rebuttal Arguments
3. Selection Procedure – Multiple Arguments Filed
4. Word Count Standards

**SIGNATURE FORM FOR PROPONENTS  
PRIMARY ARGUMENT**

**EC 9600:** "All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to this division shall be accompanied by the following form statement, to be signed by each proponent and by each author, if different, of the argument:"

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the ballot argument  in favor of or  
 against ballot measure \_\_\_\_\_

at the General Municipal Election for the City of Citrus Heights to be held on November 3, 2020

hereby state that this argument is true and correct to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Print

Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Print

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

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# SIGNATURE FORM FOR PROPONENTS REBUTTAL ARGUMENT

**EC 9600:** "All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to this division shall be accompanied by the following form statement, to be signed by each proponent and by each author, if different, of the argument:"

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the ballot argument  in favor of or  
 against ballot measure \_\_\_\_\_

at the General Municipal Election for the City of Citrus Heights to be held on November 3, 2020

hereby state that this argument is true and correct to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Print

Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Print

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

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## **SELECTION PROCEDURE MULTIPLE BALLOT MEASURE ARGUMENTS**

Elections Code Section 9287 establishes a hierarchy for the submission of arguments to determine whose argument has priority.

**9287.** If more than one argument for or more than one argument against any city measure is submitted to the city elections official within the time prescribed, he or she shall select one of the arguments in favor and one of the arguments against the measure for printing and distribution to the voters. In selecting the argument the city elections official shall give preference and priority, in the order named, to the arguments of the following:

- (a) The legislative body, or member or members of the legislative body authorized by that body.
- (b) The individual voter, or bona fide association of citizens, or combination of voters and associations, who are the bona fide sponsors or proponents of the measure.
- (c) Bona fide associations of citizens.
- (d) Individual voters who are eligible to vote on the measure.

If the argument is being filed by a bona fide association, Elections Code Section 9283 requires that “the name of the organization and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers who is the author of the argument” must accompany the argument.

In order to be considered a “bona fide association” for filing an argument for a city measure, the organization or association must submit one of the following: articles of incorporation, letterhead with the name of the organization and its principal officers, or some other written document indicating the same.

The code does not contain any provision for selecting an argument based on which argument was filed first, or earliest in relation to any arguments filed later, but before the deadline. All arguments filed before the deadline are considered equal in priority.

The code clearly states that only one argument for and one argument against may be printed (EC 9287). If two or more parties filing an argument for or against a measure fall under the same classification, then the Elections Official shall select one argument to print. The Elections Official will determine the most appropriate procedure to select the argument to be printed.

The Elections Official may determine that the drawing of lots, as outlined below, is the most appropriate means to select the argument to be printed.

### **Procedure for Drawing of Lots**

The names of the authors of the arguments shall be written on pieces of paper, folded, and placed in a container. The container will be agitated to mix the papers, and then one paper shall be drawn at-a-time. As each piece of paper is removed, it will be opened and the name recorded in the order it was removed.

The order in which the names are removed from the container shall be the order of priority for printing the argument, i.e., the first name chosen shall be the author whose argument shall be printed.

Arguments for a measure and arguments against a measure will each have their own drawing process.

The results will then be posted in the City Clerk Department.

## **WORD COUNT STANDARDS CITRUS HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**

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Each word shall be counted as one word except as specified in this section.

1. Punctuation is not counted.
2. All geographical names shall be considered as one word; for example, "City and County of San Francisco" shall be counted as one word.
3. Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available standard reference dictionary, published in the United States at any time within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding the election for which the words are counted, shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.
4. Dates consisting of a combination of words and digits shall be counted as two words. Dates consisting only of a combination of digits shall be counted as one word.
5. Any number consisting of a digit or digits shall be considered as one word. Any number which is spelled, such as "one," shall be considered as a separate word or words. "One" shall be counted as one word whereas "one hundred" shall be counted as two words. "100" shall be counted as one word. The following combinations are counted as one word: 1997, 25%, #5.
6. Telephone numbers shall be counted as one word.
7. Internet web site addresses shall be counted as one word.
8. Monetary amounts will be counted as one word; for example, "\$1,000,000" shall be counted as one word.