IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS
CITY OF MERCED MEASURE _____

This measure amends the Merced City Charter Section 1000, "General Municipal Elections," by making the following changes:

Currently, Section 1000 of the Charter requires that general municipal elections be held in November of odd numbered years. General municipal elections are when the Mayor and three Members of the City Council are elected.

This proposed Charter amendment would change the date of the general municipal elections from November of odd numbered years to November of even numbered years. Even numbered years are traditionally when more elections are held, such as for President, U.S. Congress, Governor, and the State Legislature.

The existing Charter limits the Mayor to two, two-year terms in office.

This proposed Charter amendment would allow the Mayor elected at this election to serve a three-year term without violating the term limits provisions in the Charter. This would allow for the transition from an odd numbered year election to an even numbered year election. The Mayor would still only be eligible for two terms in office.

The existing Charter limits Members of the City Council to two, four-year terms in office.

This proposed Charter amendment would allow those Members of the City Council elected at this election to serve a five-year term of office without violating the term limits provisions in the Charter. This would allow for the transition from an odd numbered year election to an even numbered year election. Members of the City Council would still only be eligible for two terms in office.

This proposed Charter amendment would also extend by 12 months the terms of the continuing Members of the City Council to allow for the transition from an odd numbered year election to an even numbered year election.

The full text of the Measure can be found at:
www.cityofmerced.org/depts/city_council/election_voter_information/default.asp

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