

**REBUTTALS TO ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION OF THE PROPOSED
LAWS ARE THE OPINIONS OF THE AUTHORS**

Rebuttal to Argument In Favor of Measure _____

**“Measure Directing the Use of Ranked Choice Voting for City Council Member and
Mayoral Elections after January 1, 2028”**

THE “SPENDING CAP” IS A SHAM. The number moves around — it's a percentage of the city's massive general fund, and could eventually rise to \$1.5 million, \$2 million or more. We don't know. We're just guesstimating. And the only cost estimates come from the group pushing you to vote yes. Irvine can't afford that kind of surprise: the city faces a \$6 million deficit this year and a \$47 million shortfall ahead.

NO OTHER CITY IN ORANGE COUNTY USES THIS TODAY. The Orange County Registrar admits in writing that it has no certified system for implementing ranked-choice voting — that's why no infrastructure exists, and Irvine would bear the massive startup costs.

NOT BROKEN. NOT NEEDED. Irvine has never held a runoff election. This “fix” solves a problem we don't have.

“DOZENS OF CITIES”? LOOK WHAT HAPPENED THERE. Implementation problems have surfaced across the country — including in Oakland, one of the flagship cities RCV advocates point to as proof it works. In 2022, a misconfigured algorithm led Alameda County to certify the wrong winner in an Oakland school board race. The certified winner was declared the loser weeks later, once the error was corrected. New York's 2021 mayoral primary saw the same kind of chaos, when 135,000 test ballots were mistakenly counted.

Our elections work now. Implementing this will be very expensive. And it has had some serious problems in some places where it has been tried.

VOTE NO on Measure _____.

— James Mai, Vice Mayor

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of Ballot Measure _____ named “Measure Directing the Use of Ranked Choice Voting for City Council Member and Mayoral Elections after January 1, 2028” at the General Municipal Election for the City of Irvine to be held on November 3, 2026, hereby state that such rebuttal argument is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Signed _____

James Mai
Vice Mayor

Date: _____

8-5-26

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