



September 19, 2010

Dear San Diego County voters,

We are pleased to bring you this Green Party Voter Guide with voting recommendations for the six statewide elected positions, two local elected positions, the nine statewide propositions, and the twelve local propositions in San Diego County (most apply to specific cities or voting districts).

This guide includes:

- GPoSD Quick Chart – includes candidate endorsements and state and local ballot proposition recommendations in a handy one-page chart
- Rationales for the proposition recommendations
- Resources for voters
 - Voter registration (how to check registration status, register to vote, and absentee voter info)
 - Official state and local voter guides and ballot proposition language
 - Green Party resources (San Diego County, California and US)

We hope you find the guide useful.

Please visit www.sdgreenparty.org for more information about the Green Party of San Diego County and feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Hugh Moore and Masada Disenhouse
Co-Chairs



Voting Guide – November 2, 2010 – Quick Chart

Statewide Elected Offices

The Green Party of San Diego County supports the Green Party candidates for the six statewide elected offices.

Governor: Laura Wells
www.laurawells.org

Treasurer: Charles “Kit” Crittenden
www.crittendenforstatetreasurer.com

Lieutenant Governor: Jimi Castillo
www.jimicastillo.org

Controller: Ross Frankel
www.electross.com

Secretary of State: Ann Menasche
www.voteann.org

Insurance Commissioner: William “Bill” Balderston
www.healthforall2010.net

Attorney General: Peter Allen
www.peterallenforag.com

US Senate: Duane Roberts
<http://voteforduane.org>

Local Elected Offices

The Green Party of San Diego County has endorsed two candidates for non-partisan local offices.

City of San Diego School Board – District B:
Kevin Beiser – www.kevinbeiser.com

County of San Diego Board of Supervisors – District 4: Stephen Whitburn –
www.stephenwhitburn.com

State and Local Ballot Propositions

State Propositions		
Prop 19	Legalize marijuana	✓
Prop 20	Congressional redistricting	no position
Prop 21	Vehicle fee to fund state parks	✓
Prop 22	Prohibits state borrowing of certain local funds	no position
Prop 23	Suspends AB32 (air pollution / climate change laws)	✗
Prop 24	Repeals corporate tax loophole	✓
Prop 25	Changes legislative budget vote requirement to simple majority	✓
Prop 26	Requires certain state & local fees be approved by 2/3 vote	✗
Prop 27	Eliminates state commission on redistricting	✗

Local Propositions / Voting District		
Prop A	San Diego County	✗
Prop B	City of San Diego	✓
Prop C	City of San Diego	✓
Prop D	City of San Diego	✓
Prop G	City of Carlsbad	✗
Prop H	City of Chula Vista	✗
Prop J	San Diego Unified SD*	✓
Prop K	San Marcos Unified SD*	✓
Prop L	Julian Unified High SD*	✓
Prop M	Dehesa SD*	✓
Prop O	South Bay Unified SD*	✓
Prop P	Encinitas Unified SD*	✓

* SD= School District

STATE PROPOSITIONS

Note: While propositions proposing an amendment to the state constitution require a higher number of petition signatures to be placed on the ballot, all state propositions require a simple majority (50%) to pass.

Prop 18. Removed from the November 2010 ballot by the Governor and legislature.

Prop 19: Legalizes marijuana under California but not federal law. Permits local governments to regulate and tax commercial production, distribution, and sale of marijuana. Initiative statute. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a YES vote on Proposition 19, as it is consistent with the US Green Party's platform and long standing call for the legalization of marijuana. We support the decriminalization of victimless crimes due to the possession of small amounts of marijuana, the legalization of industrial hemp and all its many uses, an end to the "war on drugs", and expanded drug counseling and treatment.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop 20: Redistricting of congressional districts. Initiative constitutional amendment. The Green Party of San Diego County takes NO POSITION on Proposition 20 as the arguments for and against are both compelling. Prop 20 supporters believe that the current Congressional districts drawn by the legislature are overly supportive of the 2 party system and that any new system must be better than what we have now. Opposers want the current Citizen Redistricting Commission to complete its work on State assembly and senate districts to enable evaluation and any necessary changes before adding Congressional districts.

NO POSITION

Prop 21: Establishes \$18 annual vehicle license surcharge to help fund state parks and wildlife programs. Grants surcharged vehicles free admission to all state parks. Initiative statute. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a YES vote on Proposition 21. State parks are important for economic, health, environmental, and cultural and historical reasons. Chronic underfunding has caused parks to fall severely behind in needed maintenance and repairs and to become less available to the public, and has put them at serious risk of irreversible damage. The surcharge funds will provide a dedicated, stable, reliable and adequate source of funding for the state park system, wildlife conservation and increased and more equitable access for all Californians. While in general we oppose propositions that further segment and restrict government budgets, state parks have become such a low priority to legislators that we feel this is an acceptable way to ensure these important wild areas are protected and that services are maintained.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop 22: Prohibits the state from borrowing or taking funds used for transportation, redevelopment, or local government projects and services. Initiative constitutional amendment. The Green Party of San Diego County takes NO POSITION on Proposition 22. This proposition asks us to choose between state and local control of funding, and between schools and transportation. These are false choices and voters should not be asked to make them. We need our local and state governments to work together respectfully and cooperatively to best allocate limited resources, and we need to ensure that funding for some vital services is not protected at the expense of other vital services.

NO POSITION

Prop 23: Suspends implementation of air pollution control law (AB 32) requiring major sources of emissions to report and reduce greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming, until unemployment drops to 5.5 percent or less for full year. Initiative statute. The Green Party of San Diego County **strongly** recommends a NO vote on Proposition 23 as it is a blatant attempt by out of state oil companies to protect their profits by reversing AB32, the landmark global warming solutions and clean energy legislation that was passed with bipartisan support. AB32 is supported by a majority of Californians and is the best example of climate change legislation in the nation. Prop 23 would result in lack of action on climate change; increased air pollution and associated health impacts; and, would kill the clean energy industry in California, including investment dollars, businesses, and jobs – as well as California's leadership position in the industry. It is imperative we defeat this proposition soundly and send the message to the world that California leads the way in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

✗ **OPPOSE – VOTE NO.**

Prop 24: Repeals recent legislation that would allow businesses to lower their tax liability. Initiative statute. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a YES vote on Proposition 24. In 2008 and 2009, the California state legislature passed, and the governor signed, three bills that would provide state income tax reductions for specific circumstances. These tax reductions, or loopholes, will overwhelmingly benefit large, multiple-state corporations. There is no evidence to show that enacting these loopholes would in any way add jobs or revenue to the state of California. The purpose of Proposition 24 is to repeal these tax loopholes, thereby leaving the income tax code unchanged.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop 25: Changes legislative vote requirement to pass budget and budget-related legislation from two-thirds to a simple majority. Retains two-thirds vote requirement for taxes. Initiative constitutional amendment. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a YES vote on Proposition 25. This is one important step to ending the dysfunction of the legislature by allowing a budget to be passed by majority vote rather than two-thirds vote as is presently required. The two-thirds vote requirement has in practice caused the budget to be held hostage to a minority of extremists. While unfortunately, the requirement for two-thirds vote to raise taxes remains and needs to be changed so that it will be easier to reform the tax system and to provide adequate funding for services and education for all Californians, this is a good first step.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop 26: Requires that certain state and local fees be approved by two-thirds vote. Fees include those that address adverse impacts on society or the environment caused by the fee-payer's business. Initiative constitutional amendment. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a NO vote on Proposition 26. Consistent with our recommendation for Prop 25, we believe that votes that require greater than a simple majority vote generally promote a “tyranny of the minority” where an extreme minority can hold up or prevent the will of the majority to progress in an elected body.

✗ **OPPOSE – VOTE NO.**

Prop 27: Eliminates state commission on redistricting. Consolidates authority for redistricting with elected representatives. Initiative constitutional amendment and statute. The Green Party of San Diego County **strongly** recommends a NO vote on Proposition 27. This measure would reverse the major redistricting reform voters approved in 2008 and return the authority for redistricting to the backrooms of the Legislature, where politicians draw their own districts to protect their jobs. It would take us back to the days when bizarrely shaped districts were drawn in secret, carving up neighborhoods and communities to keep incumbents safely in office. Vote NO to keep the power with voters and the voter-approved independent Citizens Redistricting Commission.

✗ **OPPOSE – VOTE NO.**

LOCAL PROPOSITIONS

Notes: 1) While most local propositions require a 50% vote to pass, some propositions require a higher percentage to pass. These include Props J and O (2/3 vote) and Props K, L, M and P (55%). 2) Propositions not provided with an official title have been given a short title in brackets, [Sample title].

Prop A (San Diego County): Proposed San Diego County charter amendment to ensure fair and open competition for county construction contracts. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a NO vote on Proposition A, which would write an existing ordinance into the County Charter. This change would ban county entities from choosing to use a project labor agreement when contracting projects. This type of agreement is generally a pact between labor unions and a government entity in which the government promises workplace benefits on a project in exchange for a union's promise to prevent strikes. Both union and nonunion contractors can bid on projects using project labor agreements. This proposition is inherently anti-labor and restricts the county entities from selecting the best way to complete individual projects.

✗ **OPPOSE – VOTE NO.**

Prop B (City of San Diego): Amends city charter to add good cause requirement for certain terminations or suspensions of deputy city attorneys. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a YES vote on Proposition B, which would provide protection for city attorneys to do their job without fear of political reprisal (like the reprisals in the Bush Justice Department which made national news).

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop C (City of San Diego): Amending ordinance number O-18568 (proposition M of 1998) relating to development of Pacific Highlands Ranch. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a YES vote on Proposition C. This proposition would uncouple completing the planned development in Pacific Highlands Ranch from the expansion of the I-5, which was required due to a previous proposition (M) in 1998.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop D (City of San Diego): If financial reform conditions are met, authorizes temporary one-half cent sales tax. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a YES vote on Proposition D, despite reservations due to the regressive nature of sales taxes. The City of San Diego's financials are in dire straits and increased income is required, as well as thorough review of the existing budget, in order to continue to provide necessary services. We encourage the City to develop a more sustainable, equitable financial plan so that these sorts of fixes can be avoided in the future.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop G (City of Carlsbad): [Amendment of the City Charter of Carlsbad to add Section 502 Retention of Benefits limiting increases in safety retirement benefits.] The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a NO vote on Proposition G. Passage would mean that increasing pension benefits of public safety employees in Carlsbad would require the approval of voters. Local control governing how taxes are spent is a Green value but this proposition means that every day operational decisions about spending in a city must be decided by referendum. A city council is elected specifically to make these operational types of decisions. The citizens of Carlsbad need to make the City Council do their job.

✗ **OPPOSE – VOTE NO.**

Prop H (City of Chula Vista): [Expand Chula Vista's 1978 Telephone Users' Tax, to apply to additional telecommunications services]. The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a NO vote on Proposition H. Currently the City of Chula Vista collects taxes on intrastate phone usage. This proposition would expand the tax to cover telecommunication services not currently taxed, including interstate, international, and wireless services. The language of the proposition is intentionally deceptive as it claims no new taxes would be charged, and supporters claim that most people who pay the tax don't even know it exists and wouldn't notice the increase. Greens support transparency and do not support this hidden tax.

✗ **OPPOSE – VOTE NO.**

Prop J (San Diego Unified School District): Emergency teacher retention/classroom education measure. The Green Party of San Diego County **strongly** recommends a YES vote on Propositions J and O. These propositions request voter approval on a property tax to be assessed on all parcels (for Prop J \$98 per year for single family homes, \$60/year for apartment and condominium units and \$450/year for commercial/industrial property for 5 years, for Prop O \$96 per homeowner for 4 years) with the taxes going for local school programs. The recent state budget cuts have crippled local school systems and our public schools must be funded in order for our society to continue to be civilized. These propositions meet the requirements of the Green Party key values in that the tax is transparent, shared equally (as close to equal as possible) for all citizens and taxes collected are spent at the local level (decentralization).

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop K (San Marcos Unified School District): [Authorization to issue bonds in support of schools]

The Green Party of San Diego County recommends a YES vote on Propositions K, L, M and P. These propositions are requesting permission to purchase bonds to provide money for local public school programs. The Green Party would prefer that money be collected via taxes in advance for the purpose of maintaining and improving public schools as when bonds are purchased the public has to pay them back with interest and often the amount paid back is greater than double the amount of the bonds purchased (Example: Prop K will be for a \$287 million bond itself but the interest payments and principal payback will total about \$952 million, according to a district projection). However, not approving the bonds could mean that no improvements/maintenance will be done until after every present student has already graduated. Our rationale for recommending a Yes vote on

these propositions can best be explained by the rationale that homeowners use when they accept the greater cost of buying a home via a loan, having to pay a great deal more overall for the privilege of owning their own homes, as compared to having to live in a substandard abode until they can afford to pay cash.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop L (Julian Unified High School District): [Authorization to issue bonds in support of schools]

Same rationale as for Prop K.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop M (Dehesa School District): [Authorization to issue bonds in support of schools]

Same rationale as for Prop K.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop O (South Bay Unified School District): [Authorization for parcel tax in support of schools]

Same rationale as for Prop J.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Prop P (Encinitas Unified School District): [Authorization to issue bonds in support of schools]

Same rationale as for Prop K.

✓ **SUPPORT – VOTE YES.**

Resources for Voters

Voter Registration (San Diego County Voters)

- Check your registration status: www2.sdcounty.ca.gov/rov/Eng/evoter_query.asp#
- Register to vote: <https://www.sdvote.org/abc2pdf/Evotereg.asp>
- Request a mail ballot (by Oct 26): www.sdcounty.ca.gov/voters/Eng/Eabsentee.shtml
- If you are an absentee voter note that your ballot should arrive by October 6. If you have not received it by October 10, 2010, you should contact the San Diego Registrar of Voters and request a new ballot.

Official State and Local Voters Guides and Ballot Proposition Language

- State proposition text/voters guide (California Secretary of State): www.voterguide.sos.ca.gov/propositions
- Local proposition text (San Diego Registrar of Voters): www.sdcounty.ca.gov/voters/Eng/election/local_prop_110210.pdf

Green Party of San Diego County

www.sdgreenparty.org

California Green Party

Home: <http://cagreens.org/> Platform: <http://cagreens.org/platform/>

Green Party of the United States

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