

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE LL

Protect our wonderful historic heritage, support an inclusive public process, and reject the attempt to hijack Berkeley's landmark laws. **The League of Women Voters recommends voting YES on Measure LL.**

In 1999, a judge found the City's landmarks process to be seriously flawed. For six years, members of the public, the Landmarks Commission, the Planning Commission, the City Council, and City staff worked on revisions to maintain strong protections for historic resources while fixing its legal and procedural flaws.

In 2006, careful reforms to our landmarks law were overwhelming approved by both the Landmarks Commission and the City Council. Later that year, voters resoundingly defeated a ballot measure sponsored by a small group trying to block those revisions. Incredibly, that same small group of people is once again trying to toss out six years of public process by forcing yet another vote asking you to overturn the community-consensus landmarks ordinance.

Here are the facts:

- **Measure LL fixes the City's landmarks law so it complies with State law** requiring the City make land use decisions within set timelines. If Measure LL fails, the City will likely violate that law – allowing developers to potentially receive automatic approval of their development project -- even if it demolishes a potential landmark.
- **Measure LL allows property owners to find out if their building is a landmark or not.** City law prohibits owners from requesting this now.
- **Measure LL sets clear standards for new landmarks** and requires they have "integrity" as defined by State law.

Berkeley has diligently protected its history. We have nearly 300 protected historic buildings – more than San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose. Measure LL supports legitimate historic preservation.

Please join the League of Women Voters, Mayor Bates, Council Members Anderson, Maio, Capitelli, Moore, and Wozniak in voting YES on Measure LL.

s/Loni Hancock

Assemblywoman

s/Steven R. Winkel

Chair, Landmarks Preservation Commission

s/Fran Packard

Landmarks Preservation Commissioner

s/Alan Tobey

individually and on behalf of, Board Member, Livable Berkeley

s/Sally B. Woodbridge

Architectural Historian

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE LL

Vote NO on Measure LL. Don't be misled by a small group of greedy developers who stand to profit from City-wide demolitions if Measure LL passes. **In just 30 days, 6000 Berkeley voters – not a small number – signed a referendum petition against this ordinance.**

The Berkeley we know will be gone if neighborhoods become fair game for unregulated development. That's why environmentalists, the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association, the Council of Neighborhood Associations, and major neighborhood associations, including CENA, Le Conte, and NEBA, oppose Measure LL.

The argument in support of Measure LL is false and misleading:

- **False:** If Measure LL fails, the City may violate legal timelines, allowing developers to automatically demolish buildings.
- **True:** State law governs these timelines. No City ordinance can change that.
- **False:** In 1999, a judge found our Landmarks Preservation Ordinance to be seriously flawed.
- **True:** The Appeals Court upheld our current Landmarks Preservation Ordinance. In 2000, the State Office of Historic Preservation certified it in compliance with State law.
- **False:** Measure LL allows property owners to find out if their properties are historic; our current ordinance prohibits that.
- **True:** Our current ordinance allows and encourages property owners to ascertain if their properties are historic. It engages the public in an informative, meaningful process. Measure LL effectively eliminates these protections.

Vote NO on Measure LL. Measure LL destroys the protections of the **Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance**, violates the **California Environmental Quality Act**, and will cost the City thousands in lawsuits.

s/Sylvia C. McLaughlin

Co-Founder, Save the Bay, Environmentalist

s/Anne Paxton Wagley

Landmarks Preservation Commissioner, BAHA Board Vice President, Claremont Elmwood Neighborhood Assoc. Bd Member

s/Wendy P. Markel

Director, Landmark Preservation Foundation, Trustee, Aurora Theatre Board

s/Jesse Arreguin

Chair, Rent Stabilization Board; Commissioner, Zoning Adjustments Board; Sierra Club Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee Member

s/Juliet LaMont

DAPAC (Downtown Area Plan Advisory Commission) Member, Environmental Consultant