Measure CA1 ("Measure") was placed on the March 7, 2023 General Municipal Election Ballot by the Redondo Beach City Council. The measure proposes to amend four sections of Article XIX of the Redondo Beach City Charter.

If approved, this measure would amend Sections 19 (Public Works, Contracts), 19.1 (Competitive bidding, when not required), 19.7 (Contracts, progress payments) and 19.9 (Municipal purchases) to update, modify, and clarify requirements contained in these sections, as follows:

Section 19 of the City Charter currently provides that contracts for public works projects involving the expenditure of more than $50,000.00 are to be either advertised and awarded through a formal public bidding process to the lowest responsible bidder or awarded to the best value design-build entity responding to a request for proposals. A public works project of $50,000.00 or less may be awarded to contract by informal bid process. Public works projects of $15,000.00 or less may be performed by employees of the City, by negotiated contract, or by purchase order. These dollar figures have not been updated to account for inflation since 1989.

The measure would amend the current amounts by: 1) increasing the threshold for public works projects required to go through a formal bid process or design-build to projects more than $200,000 (from the current more than $50,000); 2) allowing public works projects to be awarded by informal bid process if they are $200,000 or less (from the current $50,000 or less; and 3) allowing public works projects of $60,000 or less (up from the current $15,000 or less) to be performed by employees of the City, by negotiated contract, or by purchase order.

The measure would also allow the City Council to further increase these amounts without another public vote. The Council would be able to amend each of the above dollar amount limits by no more than 25% if done by an ordinance approved by 4/5 of the Councilmembers and no more frequently than 5 years since last amended.

Section 19.1 currently provides exceptions where it is not necessary to publish notice calling for bids or to receive bids as otherwise required in Section 19. This includes proposed work consisting of maintenance or repair, but no definition of what constitutes maintenance or repair is provided.

The measure would amend the charter to allow the City Council to define these terms by ordinance or resolution.

Section 19.7 currently requires that at least 10% of the total sums payable by the City of Redondo Beach under any contract shall be withheld until the work is approved by the department head and accepted by the City Council.

The measure would lower the requirement to at least 5% to make it consistent with current State law and clarify that it only applies to public works contracts.

Section 19.9 currently provides for the purchase of all materials by the City through the City Manager or designee subject to other provisions of this Charter and in accordance with other regulations.

The measure would expand the purchases permitted under this section beyond materials to also include equipment, supplies, labor, or services.
The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure CA1. If you desire a copy of the ordinance or measure, please call the City Clerk’s Office at (310) 318-0656 or email the same at cityclerk@redondo.org and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you. You may also access the full text of the measure and other election material from the internet of the City’s website at: http://www.redondo.org