

## SB474 – Opposition

This is a bill that should never be considered. It creates a review of administrative ordinances by the voters via a petition. That's the purpose of elections. We elect local officials to make these kinds of decisions. If we do not like the direction they are going, we have recourse to recall the elected officials or vote them out in the next election. Adding a petition to review an administrative order is just a layer of unnecessary review.

As a Mayor, I see these ordinances at every city council meeting. At minimum we have an Appropriations Ordinance for every meeting. It looks like this bill would make those subject to petition review. Really? We spend money approved in the budgeting process (including the Revenue Neutral Rate review – public meeting), then approve the actual expenditures, now we are going to allow someone to petition those expenses? What are we to do, withdraw the payments a couple of months after the fact?

Here are other areas to consider with regard to such a petition.

- Where municipal facilities should be located.
- Operation, management, and financing of a city-wide storm water management system or any public utility.
- Zoning authority
- Pay increases for employees.
- Elimination of a City Department, including defunding police departments.
- Overturning safety codes, such as when a building is deemed unsafe.
- Changing the types of materials a city uses in construction of a utility service or building, even if that conflicted with best practices or state and federal laws.
- Ordering the city to buy property or maintain property it cannot afford.
- Stopping any public works project.

Please understand the impact this would have on all operations within a city. Would you consider making a similar rule for State government?

This is just a bad idea. Please DO NOT move SB474 forward.

Respectfully Submitted,

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