

CITY OF SANTEE

(This Measure will appear on the ballot in the following form.)

MEASURE Q

“Shall the measure amending the Santee Municipal Code to require that no person shall serve as an “Elected Official,” defined to include the offices of Mayor and Member of the City Council, for more than twelve years, or three terms, whichever is less, with any portion of term, whether by election or appointment, counting as a full term, be adopted?”

This measure requires approval of a simple majority (50% plus 1) of those voting on the measure.

Full text of this measure follows the arguments and Rebuttals.

CITY ATTORNEY IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

The City of Santee currently does not have term limits for its Mayor or City Council.

Measure “Q” would amend the Santee Municipal Code to provide that no person shall serve as an “elected official” for more than twelve years, or three four-year terms, with any portion of a term, whether by election or appointment, counting as a full term. The Measure defines “elected official” to include the offices of the Mayor and Member of the City Council. Therefore, if Measure “Q” is approved, no person could serve as either Mayor or City Council Member, or in any combination of those positions, for more than a total of twelve years, or three four-year terms, with any portion of a term counting as a full term.

Measure “Q” was placed on the ballot by a petition signed by the requisite number of voters.

If Measure “Q” is approved, pursuant to the Elections Code, and notwithstanding any contrary language in the Measure, the term limits would apply only to future terms, elected or appointed, beginning with the terms that commence as a result of the November 3, 2020 election.

A separate term limits measure, Measure “R,” is also on the ballot. Under the Elections Code, if both Measure “Q” and Measure “R” pass with a majority of “yes” votes, the measure receiving the highest number of “yes” votes will become the operative law of the City, and can thereafter be amended or repealed only by a majority of the voters at a subsequent City election.

A copy of the entire text of the proposed ordinance is printed in this voter information pamphlet.

Shawn Hagerty
City Attorney

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE Q

YES on Q to SaveSantee.com

Vote **YES** to establish a Limit of 3 Terms on the Santee City Council

Don't be confused by career politicians' competing measure that would add 2 additional terms for the Mayor, setting up a potential 20-year career on city council.

Our citizens Initiative is a compromise of three 4-year terms from the politicians desire to further water down citizen proposed limits to their power.

In comparison, Term limits in San Diego and at the Board of Supervisors are two 4-year terms. Our Initiative grants a third term to take advantage of experience while limiting the ability to entrench corrosive special interest relationships.

Politicians are likely hoping that confusion about the competing term limits measures allows both term limit measures to fail so their power of incumbency prevails.

The key to a well run city is not an entrenched city council. It is a quality city manager and city staff overseen by competent citizens serving limited terms in the public interest.

Politicians who spend too much time in office stop representing us. Their focus skews toward themselves and their special interest contributors.

Term Limits:

- Help ensure the voice of the people will be heard over special interests contributions.
- Allow new faces with fresh ideas and energy to serve our community.
- Help reduce career politicians overwhelming campaign advantages.

High name recognition – regulatory power – special interest contributions – all tip the scales against start-up candidates.

YES on Q:

- **limits the power of incumbent career politicians.**
- **limits** politicians to three terms as either Mayor or City Councilmember (or any combination thereof).

Join thousands of your petitioning neighbors to establish a simple limit of 3 terms on the Santee City Council.

STEPHEN HOULAHAN
Santee City Councilman

VAN COLLINSWORTH
Geographer/Director,
PreserveWildSantee.org

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE Q

Measure Q is Questionable.

Petitioned using a Questionable mantra that it will fix traffic; it will not fix traffic; it will do just the opposite.

The special interest authors of Q are looking for an inexperienced council that they can manipulate and take advantage of for their Questionable special interests.

It's Questionable that this special interest would attempt to pre-date the effective start date; which may cost the city thousands in legal fees.

It's Questionable that this special interest would attempt to subvert or minimize a past election.

Measure R corrects the mistakes of Q and makes sure we have the turnover in council for fresh and innovative ideas while also protecting the experience we need to represent our community in the large metropolitan San Diego area.

Vote NO on Questionable Q and YES on the Right choice of Measure "R".

DAVID LEONHARDI
President, Deputy Sheriff's
Association of San Diego

DANIEL BICKFORD
Senior Advocate

JUSTIN SCHLAEFLI
Chair, Santee General Plan Committee

MIKE CLINKENBEARD
Treasurer, Santee Chamber of Commerce

LYNDA MARROKAL
Community Historian

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE Q

The Santee Term Limits Committee requests you vote NO on measure Q.

To institute term limits that are legally binding and beneficial to our community we urge you to vote YES on R, and NO on Q!

Measure R was instituted to propose legal, common sense term limits.

Santee is a small town that shares a boundary with a large metropolis. We need experienced Councilmembers who have the contacts necessary to effectively work within the county in the best interest of our citizens. This initiative will severely cripple the experience of our City government by limiting your choices at the ballot box.

"Q" directs a three-term limit indiscriminate of position or the length of the term. Whether serving as Mayor or Council, just three terms. Any partial term of any length would be counted as a full term. This could result in a member being unqualified to serve in just over 6 years. This is an issue because this limits experience in the Council. An inexperienced Council can and will be taken advantage of by special interest groups and PACs.

Would we ever see a Mayor elected that is not on his "lame duck" last election cycle?

Knowing this, PACs and other special interests become increasingly powerful with prospective candidates. Your future Council will be made up of members who owe PACs favors.

No matter how effective a Councilmember, a termed-out Councilmember can never run for office in Santee again.

The initiative attempts to "pre-date" the legally effective date, which will likely result in court challenges.

This is an attempt by a special interest PAC serving a minority of the people to gain leverage over a well informed and experienced Council.

This poorly written initiative was hastily produced by a Special Interest Group and deceived voters when collecting signatures.

ROB McNELIS
Councilman

RANDY VOEPEL
Former Santee Mayor

JONATHAN D. OLSEN

LYNDA MARROKAL
Community Historian

DANIEL BICKFORD
Senior Advocate

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE Q

Join thousands of Santee residents who petitioned for a straightforward limit of three 4-year terms by voting **YES on Q**.

Our political system has been corrupted by special interest monetary contributions. Term Limits are one way for citizens to begin to restore the checks and balances required for healthy democracy

The Santee City Attorney acknowledges:

- **Currently terms are unlimited.**
- **If Q passes, no person could serve beyond 12 years= three four-year terms on the City Council.**
- **Yes on Q limits terms beginning with the election November 3, 2020.**
- **A competing measure was placed on the ballot by the City Council.**

YES on Q breaks the lifetime incumbent stranglehold on City Hall and return the keys of government to its rightful owners: the ordinary, hard-working, taxpaying citizens of Santee.

Vote Yes on Q to SaveSantee.com

VAN COLLINSWORTH
Geographer/Director
PreserveWildSantee.org

SAMM HURST
Health Scientist/UCSD
City Council Candidate

STEPHEN HOULAHAN, RN
Santee City Councilman

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE Q

THE SANTEE TERM LIMITS INITIATIVE

To the honorable Clerk of the City of Santee: We, the undersigned, registered and qualified voters of the City of Santee, hereby propose an initiative measure to establish Term Limits for elected officials. We petition you to submit this measure to the City Council for the City of Santee for adoption without change, or for submission of the measure to the voters of the City of Santee at the earliest regular or special election for which it qualifies. The measure provides as follows:

THE SANTEE TERM LIMITS INITIATIVE

SECTION 1: PURPOSE, EFFECT AND FINDINGS

WHEREAS, the elected officials of the City of Santee currently are Mayor and members of the City Council; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Santee currently does not have term limits for City elected officials; and,

WHEREAS, term limits for City elected officials will:

- Avoid potential abuses of power by elected officials who stay in office too long
- Encourage new people to get involved in local government
- Broaden the base of potential candidates
- Increase responsiveness to the public
- Encourage fresh ideas
- Provide voters with more choices
- Increase voter turnout
- Ensure a healthy balance of power among different interest groups
- Encourage more diversity among City Council members
- Encourage broader representation of different neighborhoods; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City that term limits be established for all elected offices in the City, and it is the purpose and intent of this Ordinance to achieve the positive impacts of term limits mentioned above.

SECTION 2: AMENDMENT OF THE CITY OF SANTEE MUNICIPAL CODE

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF SANTEE, CALIFORNIA, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Title 2 Administration And Personnel. Chapter 2.08 City Council, a new Section '2.08.030 Term Limits For Mayor And City Council' is added to Title 2 of the Santee Municipal Code to read, in its entirety, as follows:

2.08.030 TERM LIMITS FOR MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Section 2.08.03010. Elected Official

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE Q (CONTINUED)

The term 'elected official' as used in this Chapter includes the offices of:

- A. Mayor, and
- B. Member of the City Council.

Section 2.08.03020. Partial Terms of Office.

Any portion of a term, whether by election or appointment, shall count as a full term.

Section 2.08.03030. Term Limits.

The Santee Term Limits Initiative requires that no person shall serve as an elected official more than twelve years, or three four-year terms as a member of the Santee City Council, with any portion of a term, whether by election or appointment, counting as a full term.

Section 2.08.03040. Application.

The term limits described in this Chapter shall apply to terms of office beginning on or after the general election held on November 6, 2018.

SECTION 3: IMPLEMENTATION

A. Effective Date. The effective date means the date that the Santee Term Limits Initiative becomes effective pursuant to State law.

B. Severability. If any subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this ordinance or any part thereof. The People of the City of Santee hereby declare that they would have passed each subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase be declared unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable.

C. Amendment or Repeal. This initiative may be amended or repealed only by a simple majority of the voters at a City election.

D. Enforcement and Defense of Initiative. The Mayor and City Council shall take all steps necessary to enforce this Initiative and to defend it against any challenge to its validity.