

**ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE R
CITY OF LIVINGSTON**

Help the City of Livingston keep institutional knowledge and experience on the City Council and reduce tax payer money spent on elections by increasing the term for the Office of the Mayor to 4 years – vote YES on R.

Yes on R will help the City build and maintain experience on the City Council by having the Mayor serve a 4 year term, just like the other Council Members. Providing a Mayor only 2 years does not give that person enough time to learn the position and help represent the citizens. And even if that person is re-elected and builds experience and institutional knowledge, the short 2 year term increases the chances of City Council losing that experience at the next election if that person is not re-elected.

Yes on R will also help the City maintain stability within the City Council. Currently, on elections where there are 3 Council Members and the Mayor up for election, it is possible for Council to have 4 out of its 5 members change. This change can cause instability in the City and the loss of institutional knowledge on the Council.

Yes on R will also help the City save tax payer money spent on paying the County of Merced for the portion spent on conducting the election for the Mayor's position.

Yes on R will help the person elected Mayor focus on representing the citizens and not spend time focusing on elections every 2 years. Help the Office of the Mayor focus more on City issues and less on politics – vote YES on R.

Rodrigo Espinoza
Mayor of Livingston