

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE MONTEREY PENINSULA RECOMMENDS

YES ON MEASURE G

Proposal to Incorporate—Proposed Town of Carmel Valley

The League promotes an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, and responsive. The League supports an effective, efficient, and equitable balance of responsibility and authority among the levels of government with accountability to the public and, with active participation by the public in state and local government, which entails the right and responsibility to be informed, to be heard, and to be involved not only in, but beyond elections.

The League's support for Measure G is based on findings that incorporation would meet our positions on governance and on incorporation. Central to incorporation of Carmel Valley is local control particularly as it relates to land use. Monterey County has not consistently implemented the Carmel Valley Master Plan and has approved projects that have exacerbated traffic congestion and undermined the primary goal of maintaining the rural character of the Valley.

The town is fiscally viable for ten years and beyond. The LAFCO Comprehensive Fiscal Analysis shows the town having a cumulative surplus of \$3,766,159 by year 10. Because Carmel Valley provides more revenue to the County than it receives in services and loss of these revenues would affect County services, the new town would provide to the County a total of \$15.9 million over 10 years so it could adjust to loss of these revenues. Existing public services would be maintained and improved over the years.

The boundaries are logical, except for the exclusion by LAFCO of the Tehema subdivision which is within the Carmel Valley Master Plan area and the geographic region of the Valley. Incorporation itself would not have a significant impact on the environment under the California Environmental Quality Act. The advantages of local control outweigh any disadvantages resulting from the transfer of services from the County to the new town. Finally, there is a community of common interest as reflected in the historical boundaries of the Carmel Valley Master Plan and support of responsible growth measures as shown in the vote on Measure A in 2007.

X NO ON MEASURE I

Authorization to sell Flanders Mansion Property—City of Carmel-by-the-Sea

The League opposes Measure I which would approve the sale of the Flanders Mansion. The sale is inconsistent with the local general plan and Local Coastal Plan. It would create a privately owned structure within the largest park in Carmel, eliminating trail access and park access to the elderly and disabled. Private ownership is also inconsistent with protecting the park's three listed endangered species and five unique habitats. The League supports public ownership of open space, planning to perpetuate scenic assets and protect natural resources, and local government's responsibility for preserving open space and providing for adequate parks and recreation.