

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE S

The **entire** City Council agreed that district representation was the right thing to do in Los Banos and that is why we **unanimously** placed **Measure S** on the ballot for your consideration. Measure S creates true neighborhood districts while continuing our tradition of choosing a Mayor in a citywide election.

Why is approving Measure S the right thing to do?

- Measure S will help to preserve and reinforce neighborhood identity;
- Measure S will allow each district's residents to have a representative from their own neighborhood whom they can specifically turn to for assistance;
- Measure S will enhance the ability for a greater number of candidates to run for seats on the City Council by eliminating the costs associated with running for election citywide;
- Measure S will help to promote full participation of all residents and help to ensure equal opportunity for all groups in electing members to the City Council;
- Measure S will help to enhance diversity and ensure a representative City Council that serves all residents;
- Measure S will protect the City and minimize the risk of an extremely expensive lawsuit under the California Voting Rights Act Law that no city in California has successfully defended. The City of Modesto and the City of Palmdale learned the hard way and each spent over \$3 million to unsuccessfully defend such a lawsuit. The City of Los Banos has better uses for your tax dollars.

Please join us in supporting Measure S. It is the right thing to do.

Scott Silveira, City Council Member

Tom Faria, City Council Member