

### **CITY OF OCEANSIDE: MEASURE Y (SAVE OPEN SPACE AND AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES "SOAR")**

**POSITION:** The Chamber's Public Policy Committee voted to SUPPORT the proposition on September 11, 2018.

**RATIONALE:** Restricting the development and future growth of the city is detrimental to our long-term economic and housing needs.

**STATUS:** Measure Y will appear before voters in Oceanside on the November 2018 ballot.

#### **SUMMARY**

Measure Y seeks to change the approval process for General Plan amendments, and rezoning, in the City of Oceanside. Specifically, it would require majority voter approval for any proposed change to the General Plan land use designation or zoning of land use that is designated or zoned currently for agricultural use or as open space.

#### **INDUSTRY/IES IMPACTED**

The industries impacted include building, agriculture and retail within Oceanside.

#### **SUPPORTERS**

- None registered

#### **ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR**

According to proponents, Measure Y is necessary to ensure that farmland and open space are preserved, and to protect the opportunity of voters in the community to decide how the community is developed. Proponents argue that allowing these spaces to be developed, will increase sprawl and adversely impact emergency evaluations and public safety.

#### **OPPONENTS**

- None registered

#### **ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION**

Opponents of Measure Y state that, it would "accomplish the OPPOSITE of what its backers claim. ...economist Lynn Reasure concluded Measure Y will likely cause 'the eventual demise of active farms in Oceanside with land either being left to go fallow or sold into large estates for the wealthy."

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Primarily at issue is the City's 3,340 acres of agriculturally-zoned land in the City of Oceanside. Under existing law, parks and recreational areas in the City are already voter-protected from development, which raises concerns about why this measure would be necessary for their preservation. While the City is not unique in its proposal to require a public vote for zoning changes, it is one of the few appearing in the San Diego region on the ballot in 2018. A Countywide initiative, with very similar goals, will not appear on the ballot until 2020.