

## ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE HH

Tustin's part-time City Council Members receive annual compensation of up to \$29,183.40 each. This includes health insurance benefits for their entire families, a generous public employee pension ensuring lifetime retirement benefits when fully vested, city-paid dental and life insurance, and cash of \$853.10 per month. This amounts to more than \$2,400 per month, per council member, whether they show up or not. It is time to stop this gravy train! Being elected to the City Council is an honor and an opportunity to serve the public, not a career. It is a part-time commitment that does not warrant full-time benefits or a public employee pension at taxpayer expense.

This measure would eliminate the generous pay and benefits for members of the City Council, but council members would still be reimbursed for their legitimate and reasonable out-of-pocket expenses. The current city council, in addressing the fiscal realities facing most cities in California and being receptive to public concern about government excess, wisely decided to put this issue before the voters. No future council could reinstate pay or benefits to the city council without getting voter approval. No more could members of the city council simply vote themselves raises or increases in pensions and benefits. Voters and taxpayers would have the final say.

A "yes" vote could save city taxpayers over \$145,000 per year, or more than \$1.1 million over the 8 years of maximum continuous service on the City Council. This is money that can be used to bolster public safety, improve our parks, and preserve city services that otherwise face elimination due to budget cuts.

Please join community leaders, taxpayer advocates, and your neighbors in supporting this ballot measure to eliminate these unnecessary costs to the taxpayer. Vote YES!

s/ Gretchen F. Whisler

s/ Pete Beatty

s/ Steve Gooderham

**No argument against this measure was submitted.**