

CHARTER AMENDMENT

**City Council
JULY 2, 2024
ITEM #7-D**



Background

**City Council approved
a Referral regarding
Section 3-10 of the City
Charter pertaining to
leases**

**A subsequent Referral
regarding sales was
not heard**

**Historical information
found no justification
for the four-vote
requirement**



Other Jurisdictions

Jurisdiction	Votes / Majority or Supermajority	Ordinance Or Resolution
Alameda County	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Albany	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Berkeley	5 of 9, simple majority	Ordinance (consent calendar)
Dublin	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Emeryville	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Fremont	4 of 7, simple majority	Consent Calendar
Hayward	4 of 7, simple majority	Resolution
Livermore	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Newark	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution for lease; unknown for sale
Oakland	6 of 8, supermajority	Ordinance
Piedmont	3 of 5, simple majority	Ordinance
San Leandro	4 of 7, simple majority	Resolution
Union City	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Contra Costa County	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Brentwood	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
	Leases handled by City Mgr., Sales by City Council	
Clayton	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Danville	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
El Cerrito	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Lafayette	3 of 5, simple majority	Neither
Martinez	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Oakley	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Orinda	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution for lease, unknown for sale
Pittsburg	3 of 5, simple majority	Resolution
Richmond	4 of 7, simple majority	Ordinance
San Ramon	3 of 5, simple majority for sale	Resolution for sale, no council action for lease, lease executed by City Mgr.
Santa Clara County		
Palo Alto	4 of 7, simple majority	Consent Calendar
San Francisco County	6 of 11, simple majority	Resolution
Placer County	3 of 5, Simple majority	Regular Agenda, Resolution

Ballot Measure Options

Option 1: Eliminate four vote requirement for leases

Option 2: Eliminate four vote requirement for leases and have leases approved by resolution

Option 3: Eliminate four vote requirement for leases and sales of real property

Option 4: Eliminate four vote requirement for leases and sales of real property and have leases approved by resolution

Other options: Two measures or any other modifications



Ballot Question

Limited to 75 words

Option 4: City of Alameda Charter Amendment. Shall the measure amending Section 3-10 of the City Charter to reduce the City Council approval threshold from supermajority (four affirmative votes) to simple majority (three affirmative votes) for leases exceeding one year and for the sale of City real property and to permit such leases and sales of City real property be approved by resolution rather than by ordinance be adopted?



Ballot Argument Options

- 1) Draft argument(s) in open session**
- 2) Authorize subcommittee to author argument(s) and have entire Council sign**
- 3) Authorize subcommittee to author argument(s) and select signers**
- 4) Authorize subcommittee to author argument(s) with Council designating signers tonight**
- 5) Do not draft any argument(s)**



Staff Recommendation

Adopt a resolution placing a Charter amendment on the ballot and decide about ballot argument authors

