TITLE:
PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING

THE ISSUE:
Shall the Charter be amended to incrementally increase the amount the City is required to dedicate annually from its General Fund to the Library Department to an amount equal to .0300% of the assessed value of all City property, and incrementally increase the Library Department's responsibility for its direct and indirect costs until it pays for all of its direct and indirect costs, in order to provide Los Angeles neighborhood public libraries with additional funding to help restore library service hours, purchase books and support library programs, subject to audits, using existing funds with no new taxes?

THE SITUATION:
Most City departments are funded by the General Fund. The Charter provides that the Library Department annually receive from the General Fund an amount not less than .0175% of the assessed value of all property in the City. This guarantees a minimum level of funding for Library services. Over time, costs of providing Library services have increased, but the guaranteed percentage of City funds for these services has remained constant. This has contributed to reductions in Library services.

THE PROPOSAL:
This measure would, over four years, increase the Library Department's guaranteed share of the City's assessed property values from .0175% to .0300%. This is a reallocation of General Fund revenue and not a new tax. This increase would help restore Library service hours and programs. This measure would also require the Library Department to pay for all direct and indirect costs necessary to support its programs and operations beginning July 1, 2014.

A YES VOTE MEANS:
You want to increase the amount of funds guaranteed for Library services and require the Library to pay all of its direct and indirect costs.

A NO VOTE MEANS:
You do not want to increase the amount of funds guaranteed for Library services and require the Library to pay all of its direct and indirect costs.