

Measure V Argument:

Vote YES on Measure V to include all residents of the City of Watsonville to participate in Watsonville Council appointed committees and commissions, which include the Parks, Library, Personnel, and Planning Commissions. Amending this provision to reflect the diverse population of Watsonville will allow ALL residents, regardless of their electoral status, to participate in a meaningful advisory capacity on our council appointed committees. Our community's strength is its diversity, and that diversity should be represented on our council appointed advisory groups. Watsonville City Council supports Measure V, and we encourage constituents to vote YES.

Residency in the City of Watsonville will absolutely still be required, and can be verified, prior to appointment to any committee or commission. The County of Santa Cruz, the City of Santa Cruz, and State of California have adopted this practice. This participatory framework allows every resident—whether a long-time community member or a young person eager to inform change—an opportunity to influence policy, contribute ideas, and lend their expertise. Watsonville can benefit from richer dialogue among its residents, leading to solutions that are more reflective of the community's true needs and that honor the contributions of every individual in our community.

Vote YES on Measure V to have more diverse voices heard on our City of Watsonville Council appointed committees and commissions! Watsonville city council wants every one of our 51,000-member community to have the opportunity to contribute to our local government by serving on city committees and commissions.

Watsonville is a vibrant community with diverse cultures, languages, and experiences. By restricting board and commission appointments to registered voters only, we inadvertently exclude valuable insight of dedicated residents who wish to contribute to their community, and who embrace the shared commitment we all have to our community's progress and well-being.

In Community,

Watsonville City Council

/s/ Kristal Salcido, Watsonville City Council Member

/s/ Maria Orozco, Watsonville City Council Member