



For Immediate Release

Contact: Carol E. Schatz  
President & CEO  
(213) 624-1213

## **Central City Association Announces Positions on the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Ballot**

**Los Angeles (October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004)** – The Central City Association (CCA) of Los Angeles has announced its positions for State Propositions and Local Measures on the November 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot. The CCA Executive Committee met in early October to complete the deliberations process that began in August.

“The November ballot is of great concern to the CCA membership due to its effect on the long-term financial stability of the state and local economy”, says Carol E. Schatz, President and CEO of CCA. “As LA’s premier business advocacy association, CCA’s membership is also increasingly concerned with the number of propositions on the State ballot and their potential to confuse voters. This is a sign that California has indeed reverted to legislating by initiative—an unhealthy trend in California,” she continued.

In addition to the State ballot, CCA members took positions on two local initiatives, Measure A and Measure O. Here is a listing of CCA positions on measures on the November ballot:

- **CCA SUPPORTS Measure A**, a ½ cent sales tax increase that will provide over \$500 M to the LA County Sheriff, Los Angeles Police Department and all other LA County municipal law enforcement agencies for the hiring and training of new police officers.
- **CCA SUPPORTS Measure O**, an assessed value property tax, which would allow the City of Los Angeles to sell \$500 M in general obligation bonds to help fund programs that will help clean-up polluted storm water and bacteria in the City’s rivers, lakes, beaches and ocean.

- **CCA OPPOSES Proposition 60**, which was introduced by the Legislature in an effort to counteract Prop 62 and maintain the status quo. Prop 60 would ensure that voters continue to receive primary ballots for only their declared political party, with the winner of each party squaring off in the general election.
- **CCA SUPPORTS Proposition 62**, which installs an “open” primary, in which the top 2 vote-getters face a run-off in the November election, regardless of their party affiliation. Faced with an increasingly partisan State Legislature, Prop 62 seeks to promote the election of more moderate candidates, as was the case before California adopted a politically motivated redistricting plan after the 2000 census.
- **CCA OPPOSES Proposition 63**, which would impose a 1% tax on personal incomes over \$1 million. If implemented, Prop. 63 would add to California’s unfriendly business climate and drive away the very taxpayers it relies upon.
- **CCA SUPPORTS Proposition 64**, which would close a legal loophole in California law that is letting personal injury lawyers file shakedown lawsuits and demand attorneys' fees from California businesses even though no one has been injured, damaged, or misled, and no consumer or other business has asked a lawyer to file a lawsuit. Proposition 64 protects the right of every consumer.
- **CCA SUPPORTS Proposition 1-A**, which prevents the State Legislature from taking local tax dollars, which are an important source of funding for first response medical and public safety providers. Proposition 1-A requires local sales tax revenues to remain with local government and be spent for local purposes.
- **CCA OPPOSES Proposition 65**, which was originally placed on the ballot by local governments and the Governor to keep local sales tax local. Both the Governor and the League of Cities have abandoned Proposition 65 for the more recent compromise offered in Prop. 1-A.
- **CCA OPPOSES Proposition 68**, which would require Indian tribes that own casinos to contribute 25% of their slot machine *revenue* to state and local governments. This measure marks an expansion of Vegas-style gaming, currently confined to Indian lands, to card clubs and racetracks. As with Prop 70, this proposition also takes important state gaming negotiations out of the hands of the Governor and he opposes it.
- **CCA OPPOSES Proposition 70**, which would require a gaming tribe to pay 8.84% of their *net* profit to California, in exchange for the removal of all state imposed gambling

restrictions for 99 years. That is, California tribes would be able to offer unlimited Class III (Las Vegas style) gambling on Indian lands. Governor Schwarzenegger opposes this proposition because it effectively voids existing tribal gaming compacts and allows Indian tribes to operate with virtually no oversight of any kind.

- **CCA SUPPORTS Proposition 71**, Stem Cell Research. Stem cells are a type of cells that have the ability to develop into many different types of specialized cells in the body. Prop. 71 is estimated to generate up to \$12.6 billion in new state revenues and health care cost savings and up to 22,000 new jobs, many of which would be well-paying jobs for highly skilled labor.
- **CCA OPPOSES Proposition 72**. Two days before his recall became effective, Governor Davis signed SB 2, the Health Insurance Act, which requires companies with 200 or more employees to buy health insurance for workers and their families. Prop 72 creates a government-run healthcare scheme funded by an estimated \$7 billion in new taxes on employers and workers by 2007.

California is at a crossroads. The Golden State we have enjoyed is tarnished and is in danger of denying both.

### **About the Central City Association**

Central City Association is an 80-year-old business advocacy organization representing more than 450 businesses, trade associations and non-profits employing over 250,000 people in Los Angeles County. CCA is the leading architect for revitalization in Downtown Los Angeles and is L.A.'s premiere business advocacy leader shaping public policy on a broad range of issues.

###