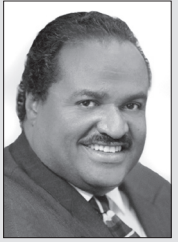


Let reason trump emotion



Marco Sommerville
President of Council

The November election is near and there are many important issues on which Akron residents will be voting. This issue of *City Council News* is dedicated to explaining what those issues are and what they mean to you.

I want to take this opportunity to appeal to everyone in our city to put aside political differences and focus on solving the economic problems we face. Make no mistake, Akron has budget problems. Our city is struggling to deliver the services that our citizens need and have come to expect.

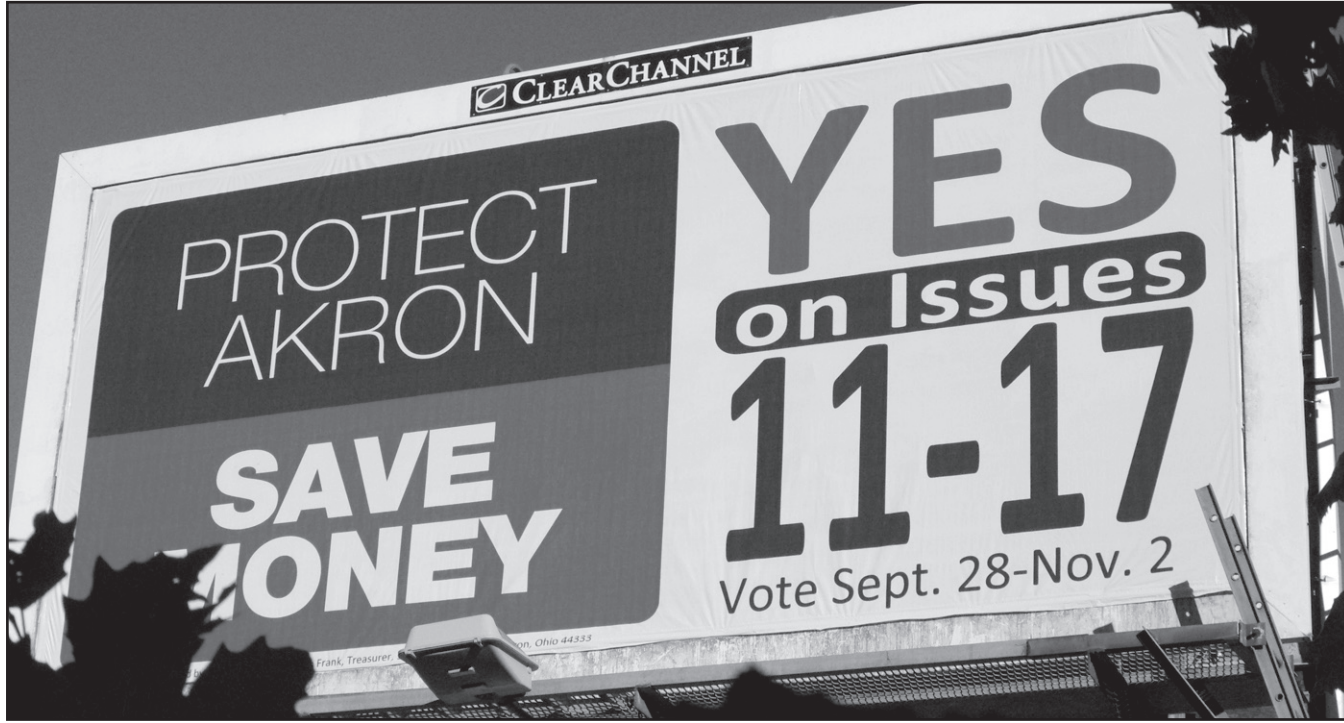
City Council and the Mayor have little control over the economy. Our responsibility is to adjust spending based on the city's income, and tax collections are almost 10 percent less than they were two years ago. Unemployment now stands at 12 percent.

Many city employees and union members have made sacrifices accepting unpaid furloughs and pay and benefit freezes. They understand that we cannot increase the city's cost for services at this time, and I am heartened that they set aside differences in recognition of the economy.

However, the job is not done. It is vital that the proposed charter amendments pass – especially those that substantially affect finances including the amendments to temporarily divert money from the school tax to safety forces, lease the recycle energy system and participate more freely in service agreements with other municipal and county governments.

Some in our city allow emotion and politics to steer them. They are using proposed charter amendments and ongoing contract negotiations with police as political and personal battering rams.

To them, I say please put aside politics and help us solve Akron's financial problems. For this election, allow reason, instead of emotion, to be your guide. Ultimately, good reasoning is good politics.



Billboards supporting the charter amendments have been erected by Citizens for Akron, a group formed and funded by local business leaders. The group also has created a website for its pro-charter amendment drive - www.ProtectAkron.com - where citizens can learn about the issues and request yard signs to show support.

Amending Akron's Future

Voters to have final say on public safety, campaign finance and more

November 2 is Election Day, and voters in Akron will have important decisions to make on seven charter amendment issues that are vital to Akron's future.

Five of the amendments were derived from recommendations made by the independent Charter Review Commission, which is convened every 10 years to evaluate and recommend updates to the City Charter. One amendment was necessitated by declining city income tax collections, and another was proposed as a reward for veterans and city residents.

Those that have garnered the most public interest are Issues 12, 14 and 17.

Issue 12 would change the required number of signatures on petitions to place initiatives, referendums and recalls on the ballot and the time allotted to collect signatures. Currently, signatures from 7 percent of the number of voters in the last municipal election are required. That becomes problematic when the number of voters varies from year to year and very few voters cast ballots in some elections. The amendment will stabilize the required signatures on petitions at 7 percent of all registered voters in Akron.

It also will change the time period for collecting signatures from 30 days plus an extension upon request to 50 days with no extension.

Issue 14 will increase campaign contribution limits to levels more consistent with other cities, and it will require public hearings on those limits every two years. The current limits were established in 1998 and are widely considered to be some of the most restrictive limits in the country. New limits on political contributions would increase modestly from \$100 per ward councilperson and \$300 per at large councilperson or mayoral candidate to \$200 and \$450 per candidate per election respectively.

The price to pay for safety

Issue 17 would redirect one-third of the 0.25 percent income tax for school reconstruction for three years to pay public safety forces, plus extend the tax for five years beginning in 2034. Redirecting one-third of the tax would raise \$4.3 million annually. The amendment specifies that 50 percent of the money will be used for

police, 40 percent for fire and EMS, and 10 percent for snow removal.

The charter amendment was drafted and sponsored by Council President Marco Sommerville and Mayor Don Plusquellic, who made an impassioned plea to council for its approval.

"I wish we didn't have to do this and the world economy had caught up with Akron rather than pulling us down," Plusquellic said. "This is a stop-gap emergency solution. Our situation is analogous to a family facing an emergency that must change its plans – maybe take money it had saved for a vacation – to deal with its current reality."

Sommerville, who in addition to being Council President is Chairman of Joint Committee for school reconstruction, said that passage of Issue 17 will not affect the schedule for school reconstruction. School Superintendent David James and the Akron Board of Education support the amendment. The Akron police union also supports the amendment.

A less familiar element of the proposed amendment is the extension of the school income tax for five additional years – a necessity according to new reconstruction projections. They show that the project is underfunded, primarily because the state has denied payment for approximately 10 percent of the submitted costs, and extending the income tax will be necessary regardless to cover funding shortfalls.

Other amendments aim to make, save money

It is the norm for modern, progressive cities to have a department of economic development. Issue 11 would create such a department in Akron.

Issue 13 would allow the city embrace regionalism and save money by participating more freely in service agreements with other government agencies. For example, the merger of the Akron and Summit County Health Department's will save Akron hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.

Issue 15 would give test bonus points to applicants for city jobs if they are a veteran or live in the city of Akron.

Issue 16 would allow the city to lease

New public comment period adds to ways to talk with city leaders

Citizens who have a problem or an opinion they'd like to share with Council now have a new opportunity to be heard without going through the formality of requesting to speak at a Council meeting.

Council launched a new public comment period in July. It is on Mondays beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers – 30 minutes before Council convenes its regular meeting.

"We have Council and administration representatives there to speak face-to-face with any citizen about any concern," said Council President Marco Sommerville. "This is an opportunity for open discussion and connecting citizens with the right Councilperson or committee to resolve any problems."

With the city's 311 call center, regular Council and committee meetings, and e-mail opportunities through the Council website, there are now many opportunities for citizens to express themselves to their Council representatives and the city administration.

"The public comment period adds another layer to assist us in hearing and responding to citizen concerns," said Sommerville. "From our perspective, it's a good way to get input from the community, too."

Making history as the first person to speak at a public comment period before Council was 85-year-old Ethel Chambers who shared her concerns about drivers speeding on Perkins Street. At the first public comment period, six residents stood at the podium to address the council members in attendance. Their concerns ranged from small-business and zoning issues to unjust street closures.

STAY CONNECTED.

Visit akroncitycouncil.org for breaking Council news, ward and committee meeting updates, Council meeting agendas and new legislation lists and to contact your Council representatives.

2010 Leaf Removal Schedule

Ward 1	Nov 13
Ward 2	Nov 3
Ward 3	Dec 2
Ward 4	Nov 27
Ward 5	Nov 1
Ward 6	Nov 9
Ward 7	Dec 8
Ward 8	Nov 18
Ward 9	Nov 5
Ward 10	Dec 4

Health Department merger raises questions

The Akron and Summit County Health Departments are merging in a move intended to increase efficiency and save money.

The city projects saving about \$300,000 next year when the merger takes effect and about \$1 million each year thereafter. But two union presidents who represent about 75 Akron Health Department employees involved in the merger told City Council that the savings are coming at a cost to their union members.

Chuck Victor, president of the Civil Service Personnel Association, and Jeanine Jones, president of the Akron Nurses Association, said some of their members are being told to expect pay cuts, increased costs for benefits and loss of seniority when the merger occurs.

Responding to their comments, Council members recommended that the Health and Social Service Committee and city administration look into the unions' concerns, but Marco Sommerville, Council President, said he did not want to wait for a committee to convene.

"Our city has received great service from a great health department for many years, and any nebulosity about their future is a disservice to them," he said.

Job security was a paramount concern raised by Victor and Jones. Sommerville said all city employees are being offered jobs with the county.

"There has been some confusion because job offers are being made in one-on-one meetings, and workers have a right to refuse the job offer. But the city and county are doing the best they

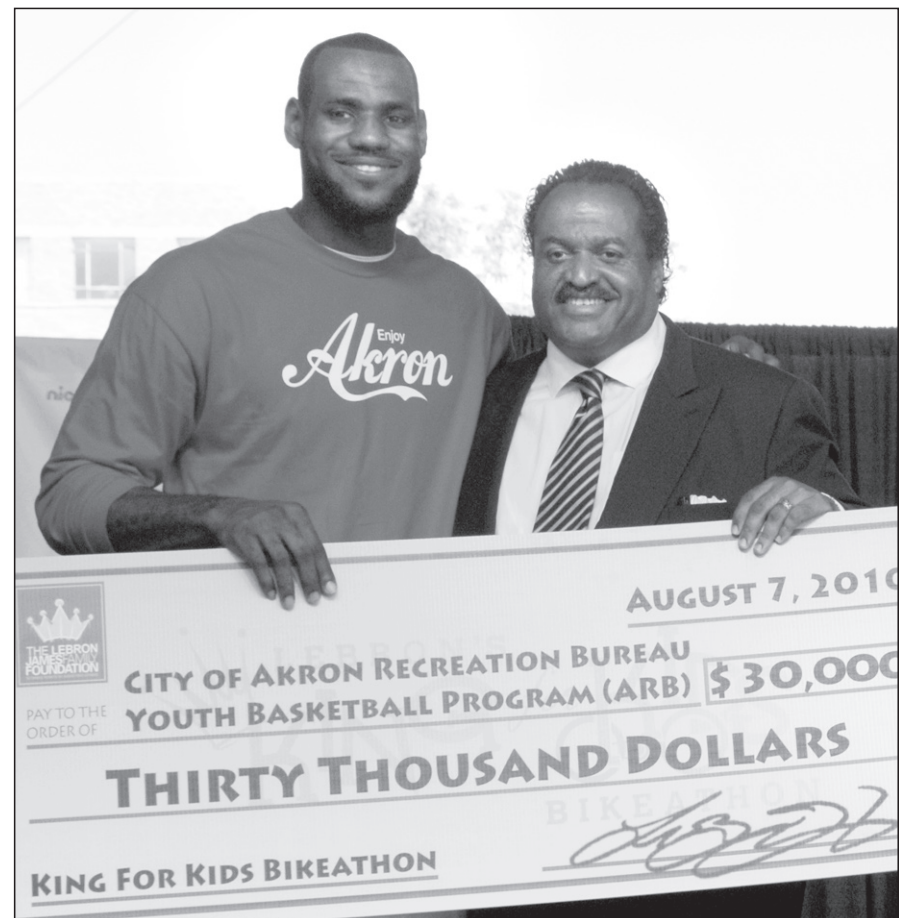
can to match each worker's past and future employment opportunities.

"Although everyone will start as a new hire with the county, they also will become eligible for longevity pay from the city. Hopefully, that will help offset their loss of seniority," said Sommerville.

The merger will result in pay increases for about 60 percent of the city workers, but the other 40 percent will have their pay reduced. Additionally, county employees have to contribute to the cost of health care benefits, whereas city workers receive those benefits at no cost.

"Right now, we're trying to figure out how to help the 40 percent who are losing some pay," said Sommerville. "We realize the lost pay is mostly the result of a 35-hour county work week versus a 40-hour city work week, but that's no consolation. Most of these people would happily work a 40-hour week."

The merger of the Akron and Summit County Health Departments is set for completion Jan. 1, 2011.



Home is where the heart is, and NBA star LeBron James hasn't forgotten where his heart is. James presented a \$30,000 check to Council President Marco Sommerville following his annual bikeathon. The money will benefit the Akron City Recreation Bureau's youth basketball program.

Hometown hero laying groundwork for replacement?

If a new basketball superstar rises from Akron's asphalt courts to supplant LeBron James, he may have only himself to blame.

Following his Fifth Annual King for Kids Bikeathon in August, James presented City Council President Marco Sommerville with a check for \$30,000 to be used by the city's youth basketball league, and it wasn't the first time he supported youth basketball. In fact, the league is officially named the LeBron James Family Foundation Youth Basketball Program.

"LeBron is a hometown hero who continues to use his skills on and off the court to give back to Akron," said Sommerville. "They say home is where the heart is, and it's obvious LeBron's heart is here."

Greg Kalail, manager of the Akron Bureau of Recreation, said James' donation will likely be used to purchase

uniforms or to subsidize the registration fee for participants. The registration fee averages \$55 but could be as low as \$25 this season. The donation may also be used toward paying referees, which is one of the largest expenses for the youth basketball league.

Last year, James sponsored the league and provided all the jerseys for participants.

"There are still plenty of needs and ways for the community to get involved and support the league, too," Kalail said. "Every year we seem to have a shortage on coaches. From signing up to coach the teams to just attending games and cheering on the kids, there is a role for everyone to play."

Registration for the youth basketball league is open in November and the season runs through March. Boys and girls ages 8 to 17 years old are eligible to participate.

Charter Amendments Endorsements

Official Ballot Questions and Issues

11 – PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF AKRON A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. Shall Section 59 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to include the establishment of the Department of Economic and Job Development; shall Section 95 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to increase amounts beyond which bids must be taken or Board of Control or Council approval must be given; shall Section 105 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to include certain additional positions within the unclassified service; shall Section 112 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to broaden the protections against discrimination for individuals seeking employment or currently employed by the City of Akron; shall Section 136 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to require that the percentage of votes be based upon qualified electors registered to vote at the last preceding general municipal election; and shall Section 142 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to permit a Charter Review Commission to convene prior to a 10 year period?

12 – PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF AKRON A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. Shall Section 13 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to increase the time to obtain signatures to 50 days, clarify that 10 days means 10 business days, and prohibit the circulation of recall petitions during the last 6 months of a public official's term in office, and for 6 months after an unsuccessful recall attempt; shall Section 17 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to increase the time period initiative legislation will be submitted to the voters to 60 days; shall Section 19 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to increase the period of time in which to obtain signatures to 50 days and increase the time period the referendum legislation is submitted to the voters to 60 days to allow time for ballots to be printed for absentee voting; shall Section 21 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to require the number of petitioners for initiative and referendum to be based on the number of qualified electors registered to vote at the last general municipal election; and shall Section 22 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to clarify that ten days means ten business days and to identify the change in the duties of the Clerk of Council caused by the lengthening of time to gather petitions?



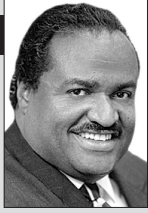



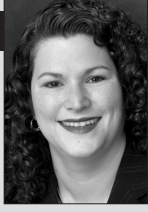






13 – PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF AKRON A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. Shall Section 2 of the Charter of the City of Akron be adopted to provide that, where the City will save money, the City may enter into agreements with other governmental agencies to provide or receive services?

14 – PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF AKRON A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. Shall Section 5 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to require Akron City Council to enact campaign finance and ethics standards within 90 days of passage of this Charter amendment which shall include contribution limits of \$200 for ward candidates and \$450 for city-wide candidates, and a review of contribution limits every two years commencing in 2012, such review to include a public hearing regarding campaign finance?

15 – PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF AKRON A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. Shall Section 106a of the Charter of the City of Akron be adopted to add a section giving veterans of U.S. Armed Forces and Akron residents preference points on civil service examinations?

16 – PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF AKRON A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. Shall Section 64 of the Charter of the City of Akron be amended to allow the City of Akron to save money by leasing the recycle energy system without further voter approval?

17 – PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF AKRON A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. Shall Section 86e of the Charter of the City of Akron be adopted to add a section allowing one-third (1/3) of the one-quarter percent (1/4%) income tax approved by the voters on May 6, 2003, to be used for public safety purposes in years 2011, 2012 and 2013, and extending collection of the one-quarter percent (1/4%) income tax through December 31, 2038 for the Akron Community Learning Centers?

	Issue 12	Issue 14	Issue 17	11	13	15	16
 <p>WARD 1 JAMES HURLEY</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO This extends the period for gathering signatures for referendum petitions from 30 to 50 days, eliminating the need for supplemental petitions. This also increases the time period of the referendum legislation and will be submitted to voters 60 days to allow sufficient time for early absentee voting.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO This issue raises contribution limits to \$200 per councilperson and \$450 for city-wide candidates and they will be reviewed every two years beginning in 2012 and will include a public hearing.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO This will provide more funding for public safety by devoting to police, fire, EMS and snow removal purposes one-third of the revenue from the special one-quarter of one percent income tax that was approved in May 2003.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>WARD 2 BRUCE KILBY</p>	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO This takes the people's right of easy ballot access away. It has not been abused and should not be changed. The politicians downtown don't like what it's been used for – like saving our sewers.	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO This would remove contribution limits from the Charter and let the politicians downtown set their own limits. This is kind of like giving the fox the key to the henhouse. Limits can be increased other ways.	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO The politicians downtown should not raid the school building fund. They promised it would only be used for schools. This is a tax increase that our children will pay. We should pay for the operation of city, not them.	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO
 <p>WARD 3 MARCO SOMMERVILLE Council President</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO I support Issue 12 because it will put an end to pointless nuisance recalls like the failed attempt against the mayor. It also will ensure that there is a reasonable level of voter support before initiatives and referendums are put on the ballot, and it accommodates early voting.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Current campaign contribution limits in Akron are the most restrictive in Ohio. Issue 14 will provide for the first modest increases in the limits in 12 years plus puts in place a process to regularly reevaluate the limits in a public forum.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Issue 17 earns my strongest support, both as Council President and Chairman of the Joint Board of Review for school construction. Akron's budget crisis is real, and Issue 17 is absolutely necessary to maintain crucial police and fire protection and to cover cost overruns on school construction.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>WARD 4 RUSSEL NEAL</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO I voted YES. The 7% of electors needed to issue a change in a referendum is better than the 10% suggested by the Charter Review Commission. I'd prefer the % for a referendum change be based on a % of actual voters and not those registered to vote.	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO I voted NO. But, I do believe some form of reform is needed. Join me at Buchtel High School's annual Pancake Day on Oct. 30 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., for a Ward 4 Town Hall meeting where all seven issues will be reviewed.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO I voted YES. This helps with the present financial need and assist with keeping our safety forces employed. It is not a new tax and has a formula in place to repay the money borrowed from the school system.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>WARD 5 KENNETH JONES</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO The Issue passing stops the abuse of time allowed to circulate petitions for initiatives/referendums and requires petitions to be based on the number of registered voters of the last municipal election, which is fair to all registered voters.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO The passing of this Issue puts Akron campaign finance in line with modern day campaign finance. Most importantly, the Issue will account for today's inflation. Current legislation doesn't account for inflation or have a review process in place.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO This Issue passing will not only help safety forces and snow removal fill a functional void created by the country's economical recession, but assures all plans to complete the CLCs happen regardless of future financial downturns.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>WARD 6 BOB OTTERMAN</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Please go out and vote.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Please go out and vote.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Please go out and vote.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>WARD 7 TINA MERLITTI Council Vice President</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO We need to simplify the Recall Petition, Initiative Petition and Referendum Petition process by basing the number of signatures on the number of registered voter not how many people happen to vote in the General Election for Mayor that year.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO It is important to have campaign finance regulations for elected officials; however the current provisions severely limit the freedom of speech of those running for office and needs to be reviewed on a regular basis for relevance to current costs.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Current economic predictions tell us that due to the recession the School Building Fund will run out before we finish all the schools and Akron Public Safety is in an economic crisis. Extend income tax 5 years. Bridge the gap!	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>WARD 8 SANDRA KURT</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Issue 12 simplifies the process of petitioning for initiatives, recalls, and referendums. Providing 50 days total to collect and submit signatures prevents a double effort of validating signatures after a "do-over" if insufficient signatures were collected in 30 days.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO This increases the frequency for public input into campaign finance limits to every 2 years instead of the ten-year charter review. The proposed limits remain sufficiently low that a candidate must have broad support, unless their personal wealth allows self-funding.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO This temporary reallocation of one-third of new school funds to safety forces, with the schools benefiting for 5 additional years later, permits funding for crucial services at a time of reduced revenues without adding to taxpayers' current burdens.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>WARD 9 MIKE FREEMAN</p>	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO NO. Raising the bar too high for citizens to place referendums and citizen-based initiatives on the ballot can discourage the democratic process.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO YES. Campaign spending limitations are wise. A \$300 limit is fair to both incumbents and new candidates.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO YES. Tough economic times call for creative solutions. Akron has committed to both education of children and protection of its citizens. Issue 17 ensures both.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>WARD 10 KELLI CRAWFORD</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Issue 12 will raise the threshold of petition signatures required to put issues or referendums on the ballot. This will eliminate the risk of misuse of our tax dollars to carry out personal political vendettas at the expense of, we, the taxpayers.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO It is necessary to bring campaign finance laws up to date to ensure that voters are given the opportunity to be informed about the intentions and credentials of their local candidates. Given inflation, this has become difficult.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Issue 17 will dedicate funds to police, fire, EMS and snow removal to ensure that our public safety employees stay on the streets and citizens remain protected. It will not delay school construction and has APS approval.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>AT LARGE JEFF FUSCO</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO After last year's failed recall attempt (Cost over \$150,000) Akron voters changed the charter to avoid this type of manipulation from ever occurring again. Voters must now adjust our referendum and initiative rules to ensure this abuse does not occur again.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO The current campaign finance rules restrict a candidate's ability to educate voters of their goals and objectives. The voters deserve more information not less. Additionally, this charter change will provide for public input on Akron's Campaign Finance Rules.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO Akron voters rejected an income tax increase in 2007. Issue 17 is the APS supported three year income tax adjustment that will "KEEP OUR SAFETY FORCES ON THE STREETS". We must be fiscally agile during these tough economic times.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>AT LARGE LINDA OMOBIEN</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO I believe the citizens have the absolute right to recall elected officials, but it should not be a frivolous act. Therefore, I support increasing the percentage of signatures, and the electors. The exercise of getting signatures should be easy if the official deserves removal.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO I supported raising the limits because the City of Akron has one of the most stringent campaign contribution limits in the country, however, since the citizens of Akron set the limits, they must also have a voice in raising the limits.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO I voted to support Issue 17, because I remember the enormous sacrifice made by the Akron Mayor and City Council in 2003 when they agreed to tie up their revenue stream to match the state share to rebuild the Akron Public Schools.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
 <p>AT LARGE MICHAEL WILLIAMS</p>	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Vote no. Amendment will raise the number of signatures required for a referendum or initiative from approximately 3,600; to 13,000. This creates too high of a signature requirement for citizens to reasonably participate in these important means of direct democracy.	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Vote no. Amendment raises the current campaign contribution amount and takes future increases out of the hands of citizens; placing total control in the hands of City Council. The campaign limits have reduced the amount of money influencing Akron elections.	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Vote Your Conscience. Voters increased the income tax to build new schools. Many feel these funds should only be spent for schools. The need for increased funding to police/fire does currently exist. City government will adjust to voter's decision.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO