

MEASURES SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS / MEDIDAS SOMETIDAS A LOS VOTANTES

DISTRICT / DISTRITO

DESERT HEALTH CARE DISTRICT ANNEXATION / ANEXION DEL DISTRITO DE ATENCION DE LA SALUD DE DESERT

BB

In order to expand access to health care providers and services and help connect residents to programs through community-based organizations across all of the Coachella Valley, shall there be an annexation to expand the Desert Healthcare District's service area to include all of the cities of Palm Desert and Indian Wells; the cities of La Quinta, Indio, Coachella; and unincorporated areas of Riverside County, including Bermuda Dunes, Mecca, Thermal, Oasis, North Shore and Vista Santa Rosa?

Para extender el acceso a los proveedores de atención de la salud y los servicios y ayudar a conectar a los residentes con programas por medio de organizaciones basadas en la comunidad por todo el Valle de Coachella, ¿debería haber una anexión para extender el área de servicio del Distrito de Atención de la Salud de Desert para incluir todas las ciudades de Palm Desert e Indian Wells; las ciudades de La Quinta, Indio, Coachella; y las áreas no incorporadas del Condado de Riverside, incluyendo Bermuda Dunes, Mecca, Thermal, Oasis, North Shore y Vista Santa Rosa?

YES / SI

NO / NO

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE "BB"

Assembly Bill 2414 (Garcia) added Health and Safety Code § 32499 et. seq. allowing the expansion of the Desert Healthcare District, a special district organized pursuant to the Health and Safety Code and the Local Health Care District Law.

The Legislative intent of Assembly Bill 2414 is to maximize the use of Desert Healthcare District's assets in order to provide direct health services to individuals within the district through direct operation of or funding provided to organizations that own or operate hospitals, medical clinics, ambulance services, transportation programs for seniors or persons with disabilities, wellness centers, health education services, promotoras, mental health services, veteran's health services and other similar services.

Additionally, according to the legislative history of the bill, the goals of the expansion are to address the significant barriers preventing access to healthcare providers and services for the residents of the eastern Coachella Valley, to secure sufficient funding to provide grants, programs and services, comparable to those provided to residents within the current District boundaries, and to narrow health disparities that exist between the eastern and western sides of the Coachella Valley.

The Riverside Local Agency Formation Commission ("LAFCO") by adopting Resolution No. 07-18 ("Resolution"), approved the expansion of the Desert Healthcare District to include approximately 1,760 square miles of the Eastern Coachella Valley, and directed the County of Riverside to conduct an election on the subject expansion. The Riverside County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2018-147 submitting the expansion to the voters of the area to be annexed.

The expansion would allow for above-described services to be provided to following area: generally located between the San Bernardino County and San Diego and Imperial County lines and from Cook Street in Palm Desert on the west to the community of Chiriaco Summit on the east, including the cities of Palm Desert, Indian Wells, La Quinta, Indio and Coachella, and the communities of Bermuda Dunes, Mecca, Thermal, Oasis, North Shore and Visa Santa Rose and other unincorporated County areas.

A "YES" vote on Measure "BB" is a vote to allow the expansion of the eastern Coachella Valley into the Desert Healthcare District boundaries.

A "NO" vote on Measure "BB" is a vote to reject the expansion of the eastern Coachella Valley into the Desert Healthcare District boundaries.

By: Ronak N. Patel, Deputy County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE "BB"

Vote YES on Measure BB to enable the Desert Healthcare District to expand its services and programs to better serve residents across the entire Coachella Valley.

The Desert Healthcare District (the "District") currently connects Coachella Valley residents who live west of Cook Street to health and wellness services. By voting YES on Measure BB, residents of the Coachella Valley who live east of Cook Street (including part of Palm Desert, Indian Wells, La Quinta, Indio, Coachella, and other unincorporated areas) will become part of the District and have better access to these services and programs.

Too many Coachella Valley residents have little or no access to adult and pediatric primary and behavioral healthcare. They often seek care in our hospitals and Emergency Rooms - which is inconvenient, inefficient and expensive. By voting YES, you WILL improve access and reduce the cost of primary and behavioral healthcare for many residents across the Coachella Valley.

By voting YES, you WILL allow the District to expand existing programs that have proven effective in fighting homelessness and other barriers to healthy living - such as, accessing housing, food, health insurance, transportation and education - to residents throughout the entire Coachella Valley. Eliminating these barriers leads to better health.

A YES vote will NOT increase taxes for any Coachella Valley resident. Both current District residents and those in the proposed expanded area pay exactly the same property tax rate to Riverside County, and the expansion of the District will not change that. The expanded services of the District will be funded through a combination of existing and new sources of revenue.

Please join residents, doctors, nurses, and community leaders throughout the Coachella Valley in supporting Measure BB. The measure is supported by Congressman Raul Ruiz, Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, and Supervisor Manny Perez.

Vote YES for a HEALTHIER COACHELLA VALLEY.

By: Eduardo Garcia, Assemblymember
V. Manuel Perez, Supervisor
Dr. Les Zendle
Elizabeth Romero
Silvia Paz