YPSILANTI

PAST & PRESENT ELECTED OFFICIALS

One S. Huron St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Vote NO!

on the City Charter Amendment

Dear Ypsilanti Friends and Neighbors,

We, your current and recent past elected representatives on City Council, have serious concerns about the upcoming ballot issue that asks voters to change our Charter. We strongly encourage everyone to vote NO on the City Charter Amendment issue.

The petition drive to change our Charter was funded by an organization outside the City of Ypsilanti. Of the 685 signatures verified, only 29 were collected by circulators who are actually citizens of Ypsilanti. Many residents who signed these petitions reported afterward that the petitioners had misled them into believing that they were signing a petition about equal rights for women or some other issue. They did not realize the truth: they were signing a petition encouraging discrimination against gay people.

Our City Charter is working well. It is a terrible precedent, we believe, and a distortion of the democratic process, to allow outsiders to change our City Charter. Mayor Cheryl Farmer has asked our State Representative to introduce future legislation that would require petitioners for City Charter changes to actually reside in the city for which the changes are proposed.

Please vote NO on the City Charter Amendment issue on November 5.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Farmer, *Mayor*

S.A.Trudy Swanson, *Mayor Pro-tem, Ward 1*

Ronnie Peterson, *Former Councilmember, Ward 1*

John Gawlas, *Councilmember, Ward 2*

Bill Nickels, *Councilmember, Ward 2*

Lisa Walters, *Former Councilmember, Ward 2*

Barry LaRue, *Councilmember, Ward 3*

Sandie Schulze, *Councilmember, Ward 3*

Terry McDonald, *Former Mayor Pro-tem, Ward 3*

Pam Cuthbert, *Former Councilmember, Ward 3*

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