

VOTE NO ON ISSUE 16: KEEP YOUR VOICE

Madeira deserves a modern, clean city rulebook without giving up our historic protections or financial safety checks.



THE LOWEST-RISK VOTE ON YOUR BALLOT IS "NO"

Voting **NO** does not block modernization—it leaves our charter exactly as it is today. Nothing changes. Voting **NO** simply asks our Council to bring these changes back next year grouped by topic, giving voters fair and clear choices.

THE 5 MAJOR RISKS OF ISSUE 16

1. THE BAIT-AND-SWITCH & DENYING VOTER CHOICE

Issue 16 bundles over 100 changes into a single ballot issue. Routine office cleanups are held hostage to force historic protection changes and weakened spending rules.

2. WEAKENED FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT & TREASURER REMOVAL

Issue 16 removes the rule requiring a public Council vote for spending over \$10,000. It also permanently deletes the independent Treasurer position. This does not just move daily math to a finance clerk—it eliminates a crucial, independent dual-signature safety check on city spending, handing all financial control directly to the City Manager's office.

3. ERASING HISTORIC PROTECTIONS & PUBLIC ASSET NEGLECT

In 2014, voters passed a rule that the historic houses be "preserved, protected, and left standing." Issue 16 strips away those protections. Council withheld maintenance to justify selling them, even though one holds 3 active businesses today and one housed a commercial gelato shop subject to strict health and safety inspections just 3 years ago.

4. FINANCIAL CONCERNS & THE WATER LAWSUIT

Madeira sued Indian Hill, risking a \$13 million exit fee (about \$1,370 per resident). Yet, city management claimed the lawsuit has "no material effect" on finances. Madeira also spent over \$800,000 fighting residents in court, hiding these massive legal costs in a broad budget line instead of listing them clearly.

5. ERODING LONG-RANGE PLANNING & CORRIDOR CHAOS

Issue 16 deletes the rule requiring an annual 5-year city improvement plan. Removing citizen oversight during simultaneous, poorly coordinated street construction projects harms local businesses and frustrates residents.

The city charter is **our local constitution**. Under Ohio law, it is the strongest legal protection Madeira voters have to protect public assets and tax dollars. Once citizen protections are surrendered, reversing them is nearly impossible (last charter changes approved 9 years ago). If you have **ANY** concerns about a risk above, please protect your voice and vote **NO**.

FULLY ENDORSED BY THE FOLLOWING FORMER MAYORS

Michelle Schneider
Sarah Evans

Mary Anne Christie
Rick Staubach

Sherry Mattes-Jansen
Ken Born

Please visit TransparentMadeira.com for more detailed information