COUNCIL OF INDUSTRIES

AUGUST 20, 2020

BOARD MEETING/ SPECIAL / ZOOM

Present: Aaron, Bielle Hakim, Josh, Kevin Reikes, Katrinka

RE: Ballot Measure / Gross Receipts

Kevin:

* Challenge ballet measure language as wrong and misleading
* Force them to defend
* Businesses pay multiple taxes – property, user utility, income, sales, etc.
* Intentionally designed to mislead
* Errors in Argument For include numbers sited for business (AAK)

Josh:

* Will call Sutton to determine if we have a legal case – misleading, not accurate, singled out one company in Richmond
* Follow-up – Josh spoke with Jim Sutton. No legal issue with Lift Up Richmond. Needs to check on timing of filing legal case, might be too late.

Katrinka:

* Rebuttal due 08/24 same signers – James Lee/Richmond Chamber, Gonsalo Ochoa/23rd St Merchants, Joe Fisher/Fisher Realtors, jean Yves Charon/Galaxy Desserts, Martino Gonzales/Agave Azul Restaurant
* Mike Aldax – wants op ed for the Richmond Standard

AUGUST 24, 2020

BOARD MEETING/ SPECIAL / ZOOM

Present: Bielle, Hakim, Josh, Katrinka

Pillbury Law Firm: Anita Stearns Mayo, Ron Buskirk

* Writ of mandate deadline 09/03
* Explore factual inaccuracies

Ron:

* A lot of color, not enough information for a writ; the test is high for legal/factual inaccuracies
* Could be considered incomplete but not invalid regarding the rate inaccuracies
* Send all documents to Anita

AUGUST 25, 2020

BOARD MEETING / SPECIAL / ZOOM

Present: Aaron, Barbara, Bielle, Fred, Hakim, Jill, Josh, Katrinka

* Pillsbury looking into timing for a challenge, and cost
* Have to ask businesses to provide funding to pursue; COI doesn’t have the funding
* On their Rebuttal, Labor Council should not have signed on- this should be redacted
* Will require a writ of mandate – judge can throw out, or ask to correct language
* Writ of mandate needs to be filed by 09/03
* Contact Chamber and Realtors for funding assistance
* But wait to solicit until hear back from Pillsbury

*Received notice from Pillsbury cost would be $13,000 to review material; $30,000 to construct and file a writ. Whereas we could raise the $13,000, subcommittee decided we don’t have the funding for $30,000+ and not knowing if we could prevail, we will look at other options.*