Vote NO on Measure L

Oxnard voters passed the Oxnard Save Our Agricultural Resources (SOAR) ordinance in 1998. The original SOAR measure protected agricultural land from development and set boundaries for growth. The City adopted its current General Plan in 2011. The Plan gives direction on land use and development. It is set to expire in 2030.

Together, SOAR and the City's General Plan provide protections for agricultural land and direction for development that preserve our quality of life. Voters should consider extending open space protections only until the General Plan expires, but not through Measure L.

We recommend voting NO on Measure L.

Our City planners got it right when issuing a plan that would expire in 2030. Voting YES on Measure K and NO on Measure L extends the city's protections on agricultural land to 2030 so the entire community can give input on the future direction of the City, instead of reauthorizing the rules piecemeal.

We value our agricultural land and open space, but tying the hands of the next two or three generations is not fair. Agricultural crops and farming technology have changed dramatically over the past decade, and extending the rules beyond the City's own plan doesn't make sense.

Also, if Measure L passes, the same rigorous community input that occurred to develop our 2030 plan would be in jeopardy. While the public could comment, they would have to operate within the rules set by Measure L for the next 34 years. Why would we not have both SOAR and the General Plan open for comment at the same time to ensure the strongest participation from the public?

34 years is too far to see into the future. Vote NO on Measure L and YES on Measure K to ensure our city is consistent in its planning process.