

Vallejo Council set to certify voters' passage of Measure A

Times-Herald staff report

Updated election results released Monday from the Solano County Registrar's Office cemented the passage of Vallejo Measure A.

The 458-vote lead will not be truly final, though, until the Solano County Board of Supervisors and the Vallejo City Council certify the results at their respective meetings today.

Vallejo's local election involved Measure A, an effort to remove binding arbitration from the city charter. Removal of the contract negotiation dispute resolution method could have an immediate effect on the city, as the city is in ongoing contract negotiations with one of its employee unions — the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

City officials said immediately after the election that it was unclear whether the ballot measure's success would play a role.

Councilwoman Marti Brown, who co-chaired the campaign in support of Measure A, said Mon-

day's announcement came as no surprise.

"I was expecting for us to maintain our lead," she said. "I wasn't really concerned about it."

Brown said she was unable to share details of closed-door contract negotiations with IBEW, but added that the official removal of binding arbitration means "it's fair to speculate that it will have an impact."

Vallejo Police Officers Association President Mat Mustard, leading the charge against Measure A, said city police will continue to work with "our neighbors" to make the city a safer place, following the passage of Measure A, a "costly distraction to the real issues facing Vallejo."

"We are concerned that this distraction will hurt the community's safety," Mustard said. "Measure A will not provide one more police officer on the street."

In other agenda items, the City Council will:

- Hold a public hearing proposed tax changes for the city's 25 landscape mainte-

If you go

What: Vallejo City Council meeting

When: Tonight at 7

Where: Vallejo City Council Chamber, 555 Santa Clara St.

nance districts.

- Hold a public hearing on a multi-family housing bond issuance to Klein Financial Corporation for the acquisition and rehabilitation of the Sonoma Apartments.

- Consider a \$1,500 payment to the California Stewardship Council to support producer product design and recyclability.

- Extend the city's ferry contract with Blue and Gold Fleet for two years.

- Hire a consulting firm to begin an environmental impact report for the Winco Food store project. (See related story, page 1A).

- Public hearing on the vacation of public streets on the property of Touro University.