

Just Say NO BOSS MAYOR



1. **Ain't broke, Doesn't Need Fixin'**

The Boss Mayor group has no argument for change. Our current government has a 90-year track record of economic progress and political stability. We thrived after the downturn in the 1980s and the great recession of 2009. Let's not mess with what's working!

2. **It'll Cost Us a Fortune**

Boss Mayor must be paid at least \$100,000/year plus benefits, tripling the current salary. We must also hire a 7th Commissioner for \$30,000. This proposal also triggers termination of the City Manager's contract with significant costs.

3. **Outsiders are Trying to Buy Our Government**

The Boss Mayor campaign lacks community support. Their group is small, funding comes from one wealthy individual, who lives in another country half the year and has hired out-of-town lawyers and consultants. Professional petition gatherers were paid to solicit signatures in our community. Voters signed based on vague, incomplete information.

4. **Absolute Power Corrupts Absolutely**

This Boss Mayor controls all city employees, drafts the budget and awards contracts. Boss Mayor can veto commission decisions and can only be over-ridden by a super-majority (5-2) vote. The Boss Mayor can also obstruct any initiative (or investigation) and cut back-door deals to influence commission votes. This absolute power opens our city to cronyism and the influence of special interest money.

5. **Our Elected Commissioners Can't Compel Boss Mayor to do Anything**

The Boss Mayor would control all spending and have ultimate say over city staff and departments.

6. **Less Accountability – Not More**

The Boss Mayor can only be held to account on Election Day, when the power of incumbency is very strong. Today, the City Commission can replace the City Manager by a simple vote, any time.

7. **Politician vs. Professional**

Lakeland is a billion dollar business! And few residents have proven ability to be CEO of such a big business. Someday, a politician with no proven executive experience WILL be elected, and the damage could be stunning. Small towns without electric, water and sewer utilities and a complex economy can make do with a rookie. But Lakeland needs a professional City Manager with lots of experience, training and success.

8. **Secretly Extends Term Limits**

Hidden in the fine print...This proposal extends term limits to at least 20 years! Maybe more!

9. **The Devil is in the Details**

Many of the changes are ill-conceived, unclear, and create unforeseen consequences that will end up in the courts. It's a nightmare. Lakeland's economy does not need uncertainty, turmoil and extra legal costs.

10. **Protect Lakeland Electric**

The Boss Mayor proposal splits Lakeland Electric. LE's Manager reports to the Commission, but Boss Mayor controls city budgets and spending. Remember Lakeland Electric is more than half the City budget. This is a crazy way to run our vital utility.

Learn more: www.nobossmayor.com