

**PROPOSED
INITIATIVES**

Councilman Hughes introduced the subject of the proposed "Green Belt" Initiative stating that he felt the public should be made aware that this proposed initiative may be unconstitutional. According to City Attorney Stein the legal problem arises in the fact that the proposed initiative requires voters to decide whether land will be annexed into Lodi. The requirement clashes with State law that places no such restriction on annexation of properties into cities.

The proposed initiative requires "an amendment to the City's Land Use Element of the General Plan be made and approved by a majority of the people voting in a city-wide election to annex land". City Attorney Stein said that in essence, therefore, you're requiring a vote on annexations. The constitutionality of similar local laws are presently being weighed in California courts.

Councilman Murphy proposed that once the petitions have been received by the City Clerk on the proposed initiatives, that the City set up public forums to respond to questions from the citizenry regarding these proposed initiatives.