



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: OCTOBER 1, 2019**

FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE **WARDS: ALL**

SUBJECT: CALLING OF GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION FOR APPROXIMATELY \$150,000 AND CONTINUE PRACTICE OF REQUIRING CANDIDATES TO PAY COSTS FOR PRINTING AND TRANSLATION OF THE CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS – SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

ISSUES:

Adopt a resolution calling the March 3, 2020, General Municipal Election to elect a Mayor and continue the practice of requiring candidates to pay costs for printing and translation of the Candidate's Statement of Qualifications.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached resolution calling the General Municipal Election to be held March 3, 2020, to elect a Mayor;
2. Continue the practice of requiring candidates to pay costs for printing and translation of the Candidate's Statement of Qualifications; and
3. Authorize a supplemental appropriation from the General Fund's fund balance account 0000101-298000 to the City Clerk-Election services account 1205000-421000 in the amount of \$150,000 for the March 3, 2020, election services.

BACKGROUND:

On June 4, 2019, the City Council introduced and subsequently adopted on June 18, 2019, Ordinance No. 7471 amending Section 1.15.040 of the Riverside Municipal Code providing for Mayoral Regular Municipal Elections to be consolidated with the Statewide elections of the United States President beginning in 2020.

The attached resolution calls for the March 3, 2020, election to be conducted by polling place as it will be consolidated with the Statewide election held on the same day.

Pursuant to Charter Section 400, the official elected at the general municipal election shall take office on the second Tuesday following completion of the canvass, but in no event later than April 7, 2020. If no candidate receives a majority of votes cast, a special runoff election will be

held on November 3, 2020. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes for the office in the general municipal election shall be declared the candidates for the special election. The official elected at the runoff election shall take office on the second Tuesday following completion of the canvass, but in no event later than December 8, 2020.

The City Council must also determine whether the City or the candidates will pay for the costs for printing and publication of the Candidate's Statements of Qualifications with the sample ballot. Costs are based upon the number of registered voters served and the number of candidates. Traditionally, the City has required that the candidate pay these costs. As a matter of information, the number of registered voters in the City of Riverside as of September 9, 2019, is approximately 142,096.

FISCAL IMPACT:

A supplemental appropriation of \$150,000 is required from fund balance account 0000101-298000 to City-Clerk Election Services account 1205000-421000 to cover the cost of the March 3, 2020 Mayoral election. Past practice has been to include the general and run-off elections budget and expense in subsequent years budget where costs are typically invoiced and paid; however, it is more appropriate to budget and record those costs in the period incurred. If the City Council determines that the City will pay the cost of the Candidate Statements of Qualifications, there would be an additional cost to the City dependent upon number of candidates publishing a Statement.

Prepared by: Colleen J. Nicol, City Clerk

Certified as to

availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer

Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment: Resolution