



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

---

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**      **DATE: JANUARY 19, 2021**  
**FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE**      **WARDS: ALL**  
**SUBJECT: CALL JUNE 8, 2021, GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

## **ISSUE:**

Adopt a resolution pursuant to Charter Section 500 calling a general municipal election for June 8, 2021, to elect Members of the City Council for Wards 2, 4, and 6 for five-year terms; and determine that candidates pay the cost of Candidate Statement of Qualifications publication.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached resolution calling the General Municipal Election to be held June 8, 2021, to elect Members of the City Council for Wards 2, 4, and 6, for five-year terms and consenting to the Registrar of Voters rendering election services to the City as requested by the City Clerk with the County of Riverside to be reimbursed in full for the services; and
2. Continue the practice of requiring the candidates to pay the costs for publication of Candidate Statements of Qualifications.

## **BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

In accordance with the election calendar developed to meet the requirements of the Elections Code, now is the appropriate time for the City Council to call the General Municipal Election for June 8, 2021, to elect Members of the City Council for Wards 2, 4, and 6, for five-year terms and to consent to the Registrar of Voters rendering election services to the City as requested by the City Clerk with the County of Riverside to be reimbursed in full for such services. As directed by the City Council, the election will be conducted wholly by mail.

At the time nomination documents are filed with the City Clerk, candidates may elect to print a Statement of Qualification in the ballot materials mailed to voters. Effective January 1, 2017, Assembly Bill 2010 amended Elections Code Section 13307 to permit the elections official to allow a candidate for nonpartisan elective office to prepare a written candidate statement for electronic distribution. The statement would be posted on the Internet site of the elections official and may be included in a voter's pamphlet that is electronically distributed. This option supported by both the City Clerk and the Registrar of Voters offers a less-expensive alternative

for candidates and another source of information for voters.

The City Council must also determine whether the City or the candidate will pay the costs for printing and distribution of Statements. Charges are based upon actual costs of typesetting, translation, and distribution to registered voters. Traditionally, the City has required that the candidate pay the cost of publishing statements.

The estimated costs for electronic distribution of a Candidate's Statement of Qualifications is \$260. Candidates wishing to publish a Candidate's Statement of Qualifications in the mailed ballot materials will post a deposit of \$700.

As a matter of information, the number of registered voters in the Wards affected by this election as of December 15, 2020, are shown below.

- Ward 2 - 21,085
- Ward 4 - 27,766
- Ward 6 - 21,020

Pursuant to the authority granted to the City of Riverside as a Charter City, Ordinance No. 6135 was adopted on May 10, 1994, exercising the City's ability to conduct elections by mail-in ballot. Ordinance No. 6135 specifically identified "special municipal elections" as eligible for mail-in ballot as all general elections were consolidated with County-wide elections at that time. On November 7, 2006, Riverside's electors approved an amendment to Charter Section 400 to provide that general municipal elections held for the purpose of electing members of the City Council shall be held in June of odd-numbered years. There are no other regularly scheduled County-wide elections held on that day and a stand-alone election results. Future elections for Wards 2, 4, and 6 will coincide with statewide elections in even-numbered years.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The estimated election costs of \$186,000 to \$200,000 are included in the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 budget. If the City Council determines that the City will pay the cost of the Candidate Statements of Qualifications, estimated additional costs to the City are \$6,300 based upon nine candidates publishing a Statement. The Registrar of Voters set a \$700 deposit to be collected from candidates for printed statements and a fee of \$260 for electronic statements, including Spanish translation.

Prepared by: Colleen J. Nicol, City Clerk  
Certified as to  
Availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer  
Approved as to form: Kristi J. Smith, Interim City Attorney

Attachment: Resolution - Calling Election