CHARLES PARKIN City Attorney

MICHAEL J. MAIS Assistant City Attorney

November 19, 2019

PRINCIPAL DEPUTIES

Gary J. Anderson Charles M. Gale Anne C. Lattime Howard D. Russell

OFFUTIES

David R. Albers C. Geoffrey Allred Taylor M. Anderson Richard F. Anthony William R. Baerg Sarah E. Green Monica J. Kilaita Nicholas I. Masero Dawn A. McIntosh Lauren E. Misajon Matthew M. Peters Katrina R. Pickett Artum D. Sanchez Chelsea N. Trotter Todd Vigus Amy R. Webber Erin Weesner-McKinley Theodore B. Zinger

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL City of Long Beach California

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Adopt Resolution Calling for the Placement of a General Tax Measure on the Ballot of the March 3, 2020 Special Municipal Election for submission to the qualified voters of the City of Long Beach an ordinance amending Long Beach Municipal Code section 3.64.035, to increase the rate of the general purpose Transient Occupancy (Hotel) Tax from 6% to 7%, and making findings of fiscal emergency pursuant to California Proposition 218; and
- 2) Adopt Resolution Providing for the Filing of Primary and Rebuttal Arguments and Setting Rules for the Filing of Written Arguments Regarding A City Measure to be Submitted at the March 3, 2020 Special Municipal Election; and
- 3) Adopt Resolution Requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles to Consolidate a Special Municipal Election for A Local Initiative Measure to be Held on March 3, 2020 with the Statewide Primary Election to be Held on that Date Pursuant to Section 10403 of the Elections Code.

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to your request of November 12, 2019, this office has prepared and submits the above-described Resolutions for your consideration.

1) Resolution Calling for the Placement of a General Tax Measure on the Ballot of the March 3, 2020 Special Municipal Election: This Resolution presents a ballot question for submission to the qualified voters of the City of Long Beach relating to an ordinance amending Long Beach Municipal Code section 3.64.035, increasing the rate of the general purpose Transient Occupancy (Hotel) Tax from 6% to 7%.

At the November 12, 2019 City Council meeting, City management presented information that the City's ability to maintain services and infrastructure after the FY20 budget year is at significant risk, primarily because costs are continuing to increase faster than the City's limited general fund revenues. In addition to these shortfalls, staff described a significant backlog of unfunded infrastructure improvements, including capital improvement projects at the Long Beach

Convention and Entertainment Center, a City asset. Finally, City staff presented information that there is minimal general fund support available for arts and culture organizations in the City.

Proposition 218 requires new and increased general taxes and extensions of general taxes to be voted on only at a regular general election at which members of the City Council are elected (November 2020), unless the City Council adopts a finding of emergency by a unanimous vote of the Council. The declaration of a fiscal emergency allows the City to bring the proposed tax measure to the voters at the March 3, 2020 election. Without such a unanimous declaration of a fiscal emergency, the City must wait until the next regular general election to submit a general tax measure. At the November 12, 2019 Council meeting, City staff recommended this measure be put to the voters at the earliest possible election to provide City Council with direction prior to the development of the FY 21 budget.

A general tax measure such as this requires approval by a simple majority vote. Revenue derived from the increase, if approved, would be placed in the City's general fund. However, as with Measure A, the City Council may consider adopting a non-binding resolution of spending priorities

- 2) Resolution Providing for the Filing of Primary and Rebuttal Arguments and Setting the Rules for the Filing of Written Arguments: Consistent with the California Elections Code and the Long Beach Municipal Code, this Resolution sets forth rules and timelines for primary and rebuttal argument writers relating to the TOT measure to be submitted to Long Beach voters at the March 3, 2020 Special Municipal Election.
- 3) Resolution Requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles to Consolidate a Special Municipal Election: Consistent with California Elections Code section 10403, this Resolution requests Los Angeles County to consolidate the March 3, 2020 Special Municipal Election with the Statewide primary election to be held on that date, and to provide any necessary elections services.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney

Ву

AMY'R.'WEBBER
Deputy City Attorney

ARW:bg A19-04520 01091181.DOC Attachments

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA CALLING FOR THE PLACEMENT OF A GENERAL TAX MEASURE ON THE BALLOT FOR THE MARCH 3, 2020 SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF AN AMENDED ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE RATE OF THE CITY'S GENERAL PURPOSE TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY (HOTEL) TAX FROM 6% TO 7%, AND MAKING FINDINGS OF FISCAL EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 218

WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach ("City") is authorized to levy a transient occupancy tax (TOT) for general purposes, pursuant to California Revenue and Taxation Code sections 7280 and 7281, subject to approval by a majority vote of the electorate pursuant to Article XIIIC, Section 2 of the California Constitution ("Proposition 218"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 3.64.035 of Chapter 3.64 of Title 3 of the Long Beach Municipal Code, the City currently imposes a general purpose TOT at the rate of six percent (6%) upon guests of hotels and other transient accommodations within the City; the revenues from which are deposited in the City's General Purpose Fund and may be used for general City services; and

WHEREAS, the general purpose TOT was separately adopted and is in addition to the City's special purpose TOT (LBMC section 3.64.030), which is also imposed at the rate of six percent (6%), for the City's "Special Advertising and Promotion (SAP) Fund" which is dedicated to support the advertising and promotion of the City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter and California Elections Code §9222, the City Council has authority to place local measures on the ballot to be considered at a

Municipal Election; and

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WHEREAS, based upon the above, the City Council would like to submit to the voters a measure increasing the general purpose TOT rate found in LBMC Section 3.64.035 from six percent (6%) to seven percent (7%); and

WHEREAS, the City Council intends to adopt an Ordinance amending section 3.64.035 of the City's Municipal Code, thereby amending the general purpose TOT as described above, subject to voter approval; and

WHEREAS, this proposed Ordinance/measure does not amend LBMC Section 3.64.030 and is not intended to increase or alter the rate of the special purpose TOT, which shall remain at six percent (6%); and

WHEREAS, this proposed Ordinance/measure is a general tax, the revenue of which will be placed in the City's general fund and will be used to pay for important general City services; and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 1996, the voters of the State of California approved Proposition 218, an amendment to the State Constitution which requires that all general taxes which are imposed, extended or increased must be submitted to the electorate and approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors voting in the election; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Proposition 218 (California Constitution Article XIIIC, §2(b)), an election for the approval of a new or increased general tax must generally be consolidated with a regularly scheduled general election for members of the governing body of the local government; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 218 permits the City Council to call a special election for the voters to consider imposing, increasing or extending a general tax if the City Council finds, by a unanimous vote, that there exists an emergency requiring a special election to be conducted earlier than the next regularly scheduled general election at which City Council members are to be elected; and

WHEREAS, the next regularly scheduled general election at which City

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Council members are to be elected is not until November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, for the following reasons, the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the City would be endangered if the City were unable to place this Measure before its voters prior to November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, because operating costs continue to outpace City revenues, the City projects operating budget shortfalls starting in Fiscal Year 2020-2021; and

WHEREAS, these operating budget shortfalls may require reductions in public safety personnel, as well as street, facilities and infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, as more specifically described by the City Manager to the Mayor and City Council on November 12, 2019, it is estimated that the City has a backlog of infrastructure improvements totaling \$2.3 billion, including pavement, alley, sidewalk and facilities investments, requiring a long-term funding source to fulfill these requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center (Center) is an integral part of the City's economy and employment; and

WHEREAS, the City estimates that the Center requires at least \$50,000,000 in capital improvements to maintain an acceptable level of service to the community; and

WHEREAS, absent additional revenues, current operating budget shortfalls will leave insufficient City funds to address capital improvements at the Center; and

WHEREAS, arts programs are important to the community, serving both youth and adults; and

WHEREAS, absent an additional revenue source, there are no identified sources of funding to continue these programs; and

WHEREAS, these funding issues can be addressed by proposing a TOT measure to Long Beach voters increasing the general purpose tax rate paid by persons renting rooms for fewer than thirty (30) days; and

WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach approves its annual budgets in

September of each year; and

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WHEREAS, in order to properly develop and decide on a budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the City must know in advance whether or not Long Beach voters support a general purpose TOT rate increase. A March, 2020 special election will provide sufficient time for the City to incorporate the voters' decision into its budgeting calculations; and

WHEREAS, if the City were to wait until the November, 2020 General Municipal Election to place this question before Long Beach voters, the City would have to develop and approve a Fiscal year 2020-2021 budget without knowing the voters' wishes in this regard, compromising the City's ability to budget with full knowledge of all of its available revenue sources going forward; and

WHEREAS, the circumstances described above create an emergency situation warranting the placement of the Measure on a special election ballot to permit the voters to decide on the Measure pursuant to Proposition 218; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance to be considered by the qualified voters and the terms of approval, and collection and use of the general TOT are described and provided for in the ballot measure attached hereto as Exhibit "A" (the "Measure") and by this reference made an operative part hereof, in accordance with all applicable laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as follows:

Section 1. Incorporation of Recitals. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are hereby incorporated and made an operative part of this Resolution.

Section 2. Declaration of Emergency/Calling of Election. Pursuant to California Constitution, Article XIIIC, Section 2(b), the City Council, by a unanimous vote, hereby declares the existence of an emergency in that there are imminent financial risks and dangers, as described above, to the public welfare and the City's financial ability to provide municipal services at current levels and without disruption, so that a special election is necessary to address such risks and dangers. As such, the City Council, by a

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unanimous vote, hereby calls and orders to be held in the City of Long Beach on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, a Special Municipal Election for the purpose of submitting the Measure attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by this reference to the qualified electors of the City.

Section 3. The City Council, pursuant to City Charter and California Elections Code §9222, hereby orders that the following question be submitted to the qualified electors of the City of Long Beach at the special election to be held on March 3, 2020:

"To provide funding for student arts education programs,	YES
community arts, music, cultural programs and organizations, local	
museums and theaters, and the Long Beach Convention and	
Entertainment Center, and maintain other general fund programs	
shall a measure be adopted increasing Long Beach's general	
transient occupancy (hotel bed) tax rate from 6% to 7%, paid for	
by hotel/motel guests, generating approximately \$2.8 million	
dollars annually, until ended by voters, requiring audits and local	NO
control of funds?"	

Section 4. Conduct of Election. The City Clerk is authorized, instructed. and directed to procure and furnish any and all official ballots, printed matter and all supplies, equipment and paraphernalia that may be necessary in order to properly and lawfully conduct the election. In all particulars not recited in this Resolution, the election shall be held and conducted as provided by law for holding municipal elections.

Section 5. Pursuant to California Elections Code Section 9280, the City Council hereby directs the City Clerk to transmit a copy of the Measure attached hereto as Exhibit "A" to the City Attorney. The City Attorney shall prepare an impartial analysis of the Measure, not to exceed 500 words in length, showing the effect of the Measure on the existing law and the operation of the Measure, and transmit such impartial analysis to the City Clerk not later than the deadline for submittal of primary arguments for or against the Measure.

The impartial analysis shall include a statement indicating whether the Measure was placed on the ballot by a petition signed by the requisite number of voters

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or by the City Council. In the event the entire text of the Measure is not printed on the ballot, nor in the voter information portion of the sample ballot, there shall be printed immediately below the impartial analysis, in no less than 10-font bold type, the following: "The above statement is an impartial analysis of Ordinance or Measure ____. If you desire a copy of the ordinance or measure, please call the Office of the City Clerk at [insert phone number] and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you."

Section 6. Notice of the election is hereby given and the City Clerk is authorized, instructed and directed to give further or additional notice of the election, in time, form and manner as required by law.

Section 7. Placement on the Ballot. The full text of the Measure shall not be printed in the voter information guide, and a statement shall be printed in the ballot pursuant to Elections Code §9223 advising voters that they may obtain a copy of this Resolution and the Measure, at no cost, upon request made to the City Clerk.

Section 8. Filing with County. The City Clerk shall, not later than the 88th day prior to the Special Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, file with the Board of Supervisors and the County Clerk - Registrar of Voters of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, a certified copy of this Resolution.

Section 9. Public Examination. Pursuant to California Elections Code §9295, this Measure will be available for public examination for no fewer than ten (10) calendar days prior to being submitted for printing in the voter information guide. The City Clerk shall post notice in the Clerk's office of the specific dates that the examination period will run.

Section 10. The City Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to appropriate the necessary funds to pay for the City's cost of placing the Measure on the election ballot.

Section 11. The City Council finds that this Resolution is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the

environment), and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

Section 12. Severability. The provisions of this Resolution are severable and if any provision of this Resolution is held invalid, that provision shall be severed from the Resolution and the remainder of this Resolution shall continue in full force and effect, and not be affected by such invalidity.

Section 13. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of November 19, 2019 by the following vote:

Ayes:	Councilmembers:			
				
Noes:	Councilmembers:			
Absent:	Councilmembers:			
		City Clerk		

EXHIBIT "A"

(Transient Occupancy Tax Ordinance/Measure)

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney 411 West Ocean Boulevard, 9th Floor Long Beach. CA 90802-4664

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 3.64.035 OF TITLE 3 OF THE LONG BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE INCREASING THE RATE OF THE CITY'S GENERAL PURPOSE TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY (HOTEL) TAX BY ONE PERCENT (1%) FROM SIX PERCENT (6%) TO SEVEN PERCENT (7%).

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to California Revenue and Taxation Code sections 7280 and 7281, subject to the approval of a majority of the voters of the City of Long Beach at the Special Municipal Election so designated by the City Council in a separate resolution placing the proposal on the ballot for such election, Section 3.64.035 of Title 3 of the Long Beach Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"CHAPTER 3.64 - TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX

"3.64.035 General Purpose Tax imposed.

In addition to the tax imposed by Section 3.64.030, every transient shall pay a tax of seven percent (7%) of the rent for his or her occupancy of a guestroom, and the tax shall be collected and accounted for separately from the tax imposed by Section 3.64.030 by the operator from such transient at the time and in the manner provided in this Chapter. All the

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revenues collected from the tax imposed by this Section shall be deposited in the City's general purpose fund."

SECTION 2. The transient occupancy tax set forth herein shall be collected and administered in the manner set forth in Chapter 3.64 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.

SECTION 3. Pursuant to Article XIIIB of the California Constitution, the appropriation limit for the City of Long Beach will be increased by the maximum projected aggregate collection authorized by the levy of this general tax, as indicated in Section 1, in each of the years covered by this Ordinance plus the amount, if any, by which the appropriation limit is decreased by law as a result of the levy of the general tax set forth in this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. If any portion of this Ordinance is declared invalid by a court of law or other legal body with applicable authority, the invalidity shall not affect or prohibit the force and effect of any other provision or application of the Ordinance that is not deemed invalid. The voters of the City hereby declare that they would have circulated for qualification and/or voted for the adoption of this Section, and each portion thereof, regardless of the fact that any portion of the initiative may be subsequently deemed invalid.

SECTION 5. Pursuant to California Constitution Article XIIIC §(2)(b) and California Elections Code §9217, this Ordinance shall take effect only if approved by a majority of the eligible voters of the City of Long Beach voting at the Special Municipal Election to be held on March 3, 2020, and shall become effective as of July 1, 2020.

SECTION 6. The Mayor is hereby authorized to attest to the adoption of

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO CONSOLIDATE A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MARCH 3, 2020 WITH THE STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THAT DATE PURSUANT TO §10403 OF THE ELECTIONS CODE

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2019, the City Council of the City of Long Beach called a Special Municipal Election to be held on March 3, 2020 for the purpose of submitting to the voters the question relating to an increase in the City's general purpose Transient Occupancy Tax, by 1%; and

WHEREAS, it is therefore desirable that the Special Municipal Election be consolidated with the Statewide Primary Election to be held on the same date and that within the City the precincts, polling places and election officers of the two elections be the same, and that the election department of the County of Los Angeles canvass the returns of the Special Municipal Election and that the election be held in all respects as if there were only one election;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as follows:

Section 1. Request for Consolidation. Pursuant to the requirements of §10403 of the Elections Code, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles is hereby requested to consent and agree to the consolidation of a Special Municipal Election with the Statewide Primary Election on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, for the purpose of submitting to the voters the following question relating to the amendment to the City's general purpose Transient Occupancy Tax in Long Beach Municipal Code Section

Section 2. Measure Language. A measure is to appear on the ballot as follows:

"To provide funding for student arts education programs, community arts, music, cultural programs and organizations, local museums and theaters, and the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center, and maintain other general fund programs	Yes
shall a measure be adopted increasing Long Beach's general transient occupancy (hotel bed) tax rate from 6% to 7%, paid for by hotel/motel guests, generating approximately \$2.8 million dollars annually, until ended by voters, requiring audits and local control of funds?"	No

Section 3. Canvass of Returns. The County election department is authorized to canvass the returns and perform all other proceedings incidental to and connected with the Special Municipal Election. The Election shall be held in all respects as if there were only one election, and only one form of ballot shall be used. Pursuant to California Elections Code Sections 10403 and 10418, the election will be held and conducted in accordance with the provisions of law regulating the Statewide Primary Election.

Section 4. Necessary Steps. The Board of Supervisors is requested to issue instructions to the County election department to take any and all steps necessary for the holding of the consolidated election.

Section 5. Costs. The City Council determines and declares that the City will pay to the County the reasonable and actual expenses incurred by the County by the consolidation of the Special Municipal Election with the Statewide Primary Election. The City shall reimburse the County for services performed when the work is completed and upon presentation to the City of a properly approved bill. The City Manager of the City of Long Beach is authorized and directed to pay for the expenses incurred after receiving a statement from the County of Los Angeles.

Section 6. Filing of Resolution. The City Clerk is hereby directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Board of Supervisors and the election department

1	of the County of	Los Ange	eles.		
2	Sec	ction 7.	This resolution	on shall take effect immediately upon its add	option
3	by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.				
4	I he	ereby cer	tify that the for	egoing resolution was adopted by the City	
5	Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of, 20				2019
6	by the following \	vote:			
7					
8	Ayes:	Cour	ncilmembers:		
9					
10					
11					
12	Noes:	Coun	cilmembers:		
13					
14	Absent:	Coun	cilmembers:		
15					
16					
17					
18				City Clerk	
19				-	
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RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, PROVIDING FOR THE FILING OF PRIMARY AND REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS AND SETTING RULES FOR THE FILING OF WRITTEN ARGUMENTS REGARDING A CITY MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED AT THE MARCH 3, 2020 SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

WHEREAS, a Special Municipal Election is to be held in the City of Long Beach, California on March 3, 2020, at which there will be submitted to the voters the following measure:

"To provide funding for student arts education programs, community arts, music, cultural programs and organizations, local museums and theaters, and the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center, and maintain other general fund programs	Yes
shall a measure be adopted increasing Long Beach's general transient occupancy (hotel bed) tax rate from 6% to 7%, paid for by hotel/motel guests, generating approximately \$2.8 million dollars annually, until ended by voters, requiring audits and local control of funds?"	No

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as follows:

Section 1. Primary Arguments. That the City Council authorizes (i) the Mayor, City Council or any member(s) of the City Council, (ii) any individual voter eligible to vote on the above measure, (iii) a bona fide association of such citizens or (iv) any combination of voters and associations, to file a written argument in favor of or against the City measure, accompanied by the printed name(s) and signature(s) of the author(s) submitting it, in accordance with Article 4, Chapter 3, Division 9 of the Elections Code of the State of California, and to change the argument until and including the date fixed

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below by the City Clerk, after which no arguments for or against the City measure may be submitted to the City Clerk.

The deadline to submit arguments for or against the City Measure pursuant to this Resolution is declared by the City Clerk to be December 13, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. Each argument shall not exceed three hundred (300) words and shall be filed with the City Clerk, signed, and include the printed name(s) and signature(s) of the author(s) submitting it, or if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization, and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers who is the author of the argument.

Section 2. Rebuttal Arguments. Pursuant to Section 9285 of the Elections Code of the State of California, when the City Clerk has selected the primary arguments for and against the City Measure which will be printed and distributed to the voters, the Clerk shall send copies of the primary argument in favor of the Measure to the authors of the primary argument against, and copies of the primary argument against to the authors of the primary argument in favor. The authors or persons designated by them may prepare and submit rebuttal arguments not exceeding two hundred fifty (250) words. The rebuttal arguments shall be filed with the City Clerk not later than December 23, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. Rebuttal arguments shall be printed in the same manner as the primary arguments. Each rebuttal argument shall immediately follow the primary argument which it seeks to rebut.

Section 3. Prior Resolutions. That all previous resolutions providing for the filing of primary and rebuttal arguments related to City measures are repealed.

Section 4. March 3, 2020 Election. That the provisions of Sections 1 and 2 shall apply only to the election to be held on March 3, 2020, and shall then be repealed.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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I here	eby certify that the for	regoing resolution was adopted by the City	
Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of			2019
by the following vo	te:		
Ayes:	Councilmembers:		
Noes:	Councilmembers:		
Absent:	Councilmembers:		
			_
		City Clerk	