

CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

333 West Ocean Boulevard • Long Beach, California 90802 • (562) 570-6101 • FAX (562) 570-6789

January 19, 2016

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached resolution requesting specified services from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office for the June 7, 2016 City of Long Beach General Municipal Election in an estimated amount of \$878,000;

Request the City Attorney to prepare an urgency ordinance amending and temporarily superseding A) Long Beach Municipal Code Section 1.21.010 relating to canvass of returns and B) Long Beach Municipal Code Section 1.21.050 relating to candidates' statements for the June 7, 2016 general municipal election only. (Citywide.)

DISCUSSION

Article XIX Section 1901 of the Long Beach City Charter requires the City of Long Beach to hold its municipal elections for elective officers of the City in even numbered years, on the second Tuesday in April and the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June, respectively. California State Elections Code Section 1001 requires the California Statewide elections be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June. As a result, the timing of the City's General Municipal Election must occur on the same day as the California Statewide Primary election. In addition, the City of Long Beach has been unable to consolidate the City's General Municipal Election with the California Statewide due to the close proximity between our Primary Election in April and the June Statewide election, which are only 56 days apart.

To account for these issues, the City of Long Beach has had no option but to conduct concurrent elections, colloquially known as "Two Vote Tuesday." Conducting concurrent elections requires elections officials to duplicate efforts such that each election official administers their own election while only potentially sharing the same polling location. While this effort is duplicative, it has been up to this point the only and best solution to addressing this challenge.

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office has indicated that they would agree to conduct a coordinated election with the City of Long Beach such that voters will receive one Official Sample Ballot booklet (inclusive of both the California Statewide and Long Beach General Municipal Elections), be asked to report to one polling place, check in to one official table, sign one Roster of Voters, and receive two ballots (one for the California Statewide Election and one for the Long Beach General Municipal Election).

Administratively, this would mean that the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office would: print and mail the City of Long Beach Official Sample Ballot booklet, print the official ballots, print and mail all vote-by-mail ballots, appoint election boards, designate voting precincts, count and canvass all ballots, declare results, issue certificates of election, and conduct recounts, if necessary. The City of Long Beach, on the other hand, would: adopt a resolution requesting specified services from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office and pay any associated costs, assist on Election Day as a call center and as Troubleshooters, and then adopt a resolution certifying the election results.

In order to conduct such a coordinated effort the City of Long Beach, City Council would have to take the following actions:

- 1.) Adopt the attached resolution requesting specified services from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office for the June 7, 2016 City of Long Beach General Municipal Election in an estimated amount of \$878,000. This cost will cover the printing and mailing of the City of Long Beach Official Sample Ballot booklet, printing of the official ballots, printing and mailing of all vote-by-mail ballots, appointing election boards, designating voting precincts, counting and canvassing all ballots, declaring results, issuing certificates of election, and conducting recounts. This cost also covers payment of poll worker costs for affected precincts, as well as the cost of conducting an automatic recount, if necessary.
- 2.) Adopt an urgency ordinance amending and superseding:
 - A. Long Beach Municipal Code Section 1.21.010 relating to the canvass of returns for the June 7, 2016 City of Long Beach General Municipal election only. This section of the Municipal Code requires the City Clerk to certify the election results to the City Council within twenty-one (21) days after the date of the election. In order to allow the coordinated election, this amendment would permit the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office to complete the canvass of returns within the 30 day time period after the election in accordance with California State Elections Code Section 15372. This amendment would sunset once the election was certified; and, thereafter, the Municipal Code would revert to its original wording;
 - B. Long Beach Municipal Code Section 1.21.050 relating to candidates' statements by adding a specified public examination period of five (5) days immediately following the candidate statement filing deadline for the June 7, 2016 City of Long Beach General Municipal Election only. Again, this amendment would permit the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office to coordinate this task for the City's General Municipal Election. This amendment to the Municipal Code would sunset following certification of the June 7, 2016 election, and the Municipal Code would revert to its original wording.

Alternative to this coordinated effort, the Long Beach City Council can choose to not coordinate with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office and instead conduct a concurrent election. The Office of the City Clerk does not recommend this option because of its inefficiency and potential for voter and poll worker confusion. This type of election scenario disproportionately impacts voters as they are required to report to two different polling places, or if it's the same polling place, check into two different tables, sign two different Rosters, and vote two different ballots. Further, this type of election creates confusion among both voters and poll workers, has the potential of disenfranchising voters, contributes to an overall negative voting experience and drives down already low voter participation rates.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

Approval of the suggested actions at this time would allow the City of Long Beach to continue to pursue coordinated efforts with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office in a timely manner, as various County deadlines related to the elections are approaching.

FISCAL IMACT

For FY 2016, the Office of the City Clerk was budgeted 2.1 million to conduct the Primary Nominating and General Municipal Elections. Of the 2.1 million, we have estimated 1.2 million for the Primary Election and \$900,000 for the General Municipal Election. The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office has estimated the specified services indicated above would cost the City of Long Beach, \$878,000. This is \$22,000 below the budgeted amount reserved for the General Municipal Election. Therefore, this action could result in a cost savings to the City.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



MARIA DE LA LUZ GARCIA
CITY CLERK

ATTACHMENT

1 RESOLUTION NO.
2

3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
4 CITY OF LONG BEACH REQUESTING THE BOARD OF
5 SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO
6 COORDINATE THE CITY'S GENERAL MUNICIPAL
7 ELECTION TO BE HELD ON JUNE 7, 2016 WITH THE
8 CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE
9 HELD BY THE COUNTY ON THE SAME DATE, AND
10 REQUESTING SPECIFIED ELECTION SERVICES TO THE
11 CITY FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGISTRAR-
12 RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK
13

14 WHEREAS, on June 7, 2016, the City of Long Beach ("City") will hold a
15 General Municipal Election, to elect members of the Long Beach City Council and
16 members of the Long Beach Board of Education; and

17 WHEREAS, on June 7, 2016, the County of Los Angeles ("County") will
18 also conduct a California Statewide Primary Election; and

19 WHEREAS, both the City's election and the County's election are
20 independent elections to be conducted by separate ballot; and

21 WHEREAS, it is desirable to coordinate the City's election with the County's
22 election in order to improve voter participation, enhance voter convenience and improve
23 the administration of elections by using the same precincts, polling places, election
24 officers, voting hours and vote by mail procedures, and to have the Los Angeles County
25 Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk canvass the City election returns and possibly conduct
26 a recount if so required;

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

1 Section 1. Pursuant to the requirements of California Elections Code
2 section 10002 and Long Beach City Charter Article XIX, the Long Beach City Council
3 hereby requests the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to consent and agree to
4 coordinate its June 7, 2016 California Statewide Primary Election with the City's June 7,
5 2016 General Municipal Election, and to provide the following services to the City:
6 Conduct both elections in a coordinated manner with respect to the printing and mailing
7 of the City of Long Beach official sample ballot, printing and mailing of the City of Long
8 Beach official ballot, printing and mailing of all vote-by-mail ballots, appointing election
9 boards, designating voting precincts, counting and canvassing all ballots, declaring
10 results, issuing certificates of election and conducting recounts as specified herein.

11 Section 2. It is the City's intent that Long Beach Municipal Code Section
12 1.21.010 relating to the canvass of returns shall be amended and restated by an
13 ordinance duly enacted by this Council, prior to the June 7, 2016 General Municipal
14 Election only, to allow the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to
15 canvass the returns of the Long Beach General Municipal Election within thirty (30) days
16 of the date of the coordinated election, in accordance with California Elections Code
17 section 15372. This amendment would cease to be effective following certification of the
18 June 7, 2016 election.

19 Section 3. It is the City's intent that Long Beach Municipal Code Section
20 1.21.050 relating to candidates' statements shall be amended and restated by an
21 ordinance duly enacted by this Council, prior to the June 7, 2016 General Municipal
22 Election only, to require a public examination of period of five (5) days immediately
23 following the candidate statement filing deadline. This amendment would cease to be
24 effective following certification of the June 7, 2016 election.

25 Section 4. The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is
26 requested to conduct an automatic recount, if the difference between the two candidates
27 receiving the most votes is one-half (1/2) of one percent (1%) or less and the difference
28 in the absolute vote is fifty (50) votes or less. The City agrees to reimburse the County

1 for the costs of conducting the recount.

2 Section 5. Costs. The City of Long Beach agrees to pay the County of
3 Los Angeles for election services rendered, including additional costs incurred by the
4 County by reason of the coordination of the General Municipal Election and the Statewide
5 Primary Election.

6 Section 6. The Long Beach City Council and the Los Angeles County
7 Board of Supervisors are hereby requested to issue instructions to their City Clerk and
8 the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to take any and all steps necessary to hold
9 the coordinated election.

10 Section 7. The purpose of this resolution is to request coordination
11 between the City and the County in conducting two independent elections by separate
12 ballot. This resolution is not a request for consolidation, as set forth in California
13 Elections Code sections 10400 through 10418.

14 Section 8. Filing of Resolution. The City Clerk is hereby directed to file a
15 certified copy of this resolution with the Long Beach Board of Education, the Los Angeles
16 County Board of Supervisors and the County of Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County
17 Clerk.

18 Section 9. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
19 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 2016 by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

Noes: Councilmembers: _____

Absent: Councilmembers: _____

City Clerk

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664



City of Long Beach Memorandum
Working Together to Serve

REQUEST TO ADD AGENDA ITEM


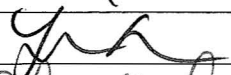
Date: January 15, 2016
To: Maria de la Luz Garcia, City Clerk
From: Maria de la Luz Garcia, City Clerk
Subject: Request to Add Agenda Item to Council Agenda of January 19, 2016

Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.03.070 [B], the City Councilmembers signing below request that the attached agenda item (due in the City Clerk Department by Friday, 12:00 Noon) be placed on the City Council agenda under Consent Calendar via the supplemental agenda.

The agenda title/recommendation for this item reads as follows:

Recommendation to adopt resolution requesting specified services from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office for the June 7, 2016 City of Long Beach General Municipal Election in an estimated amount of \$878,000; and

Request City Attorney to prepare an urgency ordinance amending and temporarily superseding A) Long Beach Municipal Code Section 1.21.010 relating to canvass of returns and B) Long Beach Municipal Code Section 1.21.050 relating to candidates' statements for the June 7, 2016 general municipal election only. (Citywide)

Council District	Authorizing Councilmember	Signed by
7	Roberto Uranga	
1	Lena Bronzalez	
2	Suja Lourenthal	