



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

CITY HALL
10300 TORRE AVENUE • CUPERTINO, CA 95014-3255
TELEPHONE: (408) 777-3223 • FAX: (408) 777-3366
CUPERTINO.ORG

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Meeting: June 16, 2020

Subject

Resolution calling for a consolidated General Municipal Election on Nov. 3, 2020, to fill two City Council seats.

Recommended Action

Adopt draft resolution calling for a consolidated a General Municipal Election on Nov. 3, 2020, to fill two City Council seats.

Description

Cupertino elections take place in November of even-numbered years. This November's election is to fill two at-large City Council seats for full four-year terms. Councilmember Rod Sinks will be termed out and Mayor Steven Scharf is eligible to run for one additional full term of four years.

The Draft Resolution (Attachment A) calls the Cupertino General Municipal Election and requests that it be consolidated with the Statewide Election under the administration of the County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters' Office (ROV) (EC §10403). The ROV administration of the election includes appointment of election officers, designation of voting precincts, printing and mailing of ballots, operation of voting centers, counting of ballots, canvassing of the vote, and other proceedings required in connection with the election. The deadline to submit the City's resolution requesting ROV services to govern the election is July 1.

The Draft Resolution also provides for a maximum allowance of 200 words for the Candidate's Statements of Qualifications and the candidate's responsibility of payment for the cost to prepare and print the statement in advance. The Candidates' Statement appears in the Sample Ballot and Voter Information Pamphlet and is optional. The estimated cost this year is \$2,860. The Elections Code provides the City Council with the option to increase on the words allowed for candidates statements from a maximum of 200 to 400 words. (EC §13307(a)). Staff is not recommending this option given that the

word limit has traditionally been 200 words in Cupertino and because an increase would increase the costs to candidates for filing statements at the maximum word count.

The nomination period for the 2020 General Municipal Election runs from July 13, 2020 through August 7, 2020. If an incumbent fails to file nomination papers before 5:00 p.m. on August 7, 2020, the period to nominate candidates other than incumbents is extended to 5:00 p.m. on August 12, 2020.

Fiscal Impact

The estimated cost of the general election for City Council seats is \$75,000 and is included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 proposed budget.

Sustainability Impact

None

Prepared by: Kirsten Squarcia, City Clerk

Approved for Submission by: Dianne Thompson, Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

A - Draft Resolution

B – 2020 Election Calendar