



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: June 30, 2015

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: City Clerk's Office, Administrative Services Department
City Attorney's Office

SUBJECT: Adoption Of Resolution Relating To The General Municipal Election
Of November 3, 2015

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Calling for the Holding of a Vote-By-Mail General Municipal Election to be Held in the City on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, for the Election of Certain Officers as Required by the Provisions of the Charter and That Certain Settlement Agreement Dated March 10, 2015, in *Banales, et al. v. City Of Santa Barbara*.

DISCUSSION:

As required by the City Charter and the California Elections Code, the City Council is requested to adopt the appropriate resolution, which calls for the election and authorizes the conduct of a vote-by-mail election. The purpose of the election is to fill three Councilmember seats in Districts 1, 2, and 3. The candidate filing period will be July 13 through August 7, 2015. The terms of Councilmembers Dale Francisco, Cathy Murillo, and Randy Rowse will be expiring in January 2016. The November 3, 2015 Election will be the first by-district election conducted pursuant to the Settlement Agreement in *Banales, et al. v. City Of Santa Barbara*. The proposed resolution states that the City Council will approve that Districts 1, 2 and 3 will be up for election this year. Attached to the resolution are the final approved electoral district map and legal description.

On May 19, 2015, Council authorized staff to conduct a Vote-By-Mail election with drop-off centers throughout the City, allowing voters the option to vote in person. Following the Council discussion at the meeting of May 19, the City Clerk's Office has reserved Franklin Neighborhood Center (District 1), Holy Cross Church (District 2), Calvary Baptist Church (District 3), and City Hall as drop-off centers. The three drop-off centers other than City Hall are located within the three districts that will be voted on in this election. Also, the locations other than City Hall are utilized by Santa Barbara County for their statewide general and primary elections, therefore residents are accustomed to

voting at those locations. The remaining polling locations that the County utilizes will be provided with signage, directing voters to the four designated drop-off centers, and providing the direct phone number to the City Clerk's Office.

Voters will have the opportunity to vote by mail beginning October 5 and continuing through Election Day, November 3, 2015. The City Clerk's Office will be accepting mailed ballots that are postmarked on Election Day, November 3, 2015, and received by the City Clerk's Office through the mail or delivery service by Friday, November 6, 2015. Additionally, between October 5 and continuing through Election Day, voters may vote in person at City Hall, during regular business hours, and on Saturday, October 31, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All four drop-off centers will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

The California Elections Code allows each candidate for a nonpartisan elective office in a city to prepare a statement which will be mailed to each registered voter as part of a voter information pamphlet. Per Resolution No. 09-055, candidates will be permitted to submit candidate's statements containing up to 200 words; and there will be no charge to the candidate for the printing of the statement.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The Fiscal Year 2016 proposed budget for the City Clerk's Office includes \$300,000 to cover the estimated cost of the election.

PREPARED BY: Gwen Peirce, CMC, City Clerk Services Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Kristine Schmidt, Administrative Services Director
Ariel Calonne, City Attorney

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office