



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** June 14, 2011

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

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

**SUBJECT:** General Municipal Election Of November 8, 2011

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council:

- A. 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 8, 2011, for the Election of Certain Officers as Required by the Provisions of the Charter;
- B. Adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Authorizing the Conduct of a Vote-By-Mail Election for the November 8, 2011, General Municipal Election;
- C. Adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Provisionally Requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara to Consolidate a General Municipal Election to be Held on November 8, 2011, with the Statewide Special Election to be Held on the Date Pursuant to Section 10403 of the Elections Code, in the event the Governor calls a Statewide Special Election allowing the City to proceed with a consolidated election; and
- D. Cancel the November 8, 2011, City Council meeting due to the holding of the general municipal election.

**DISCUSSION:**

As required by the City Charter and the California Elections Code, the City Council is requested to adopt the appropriate resolutions as follows:

- Calling for the election;
- Authorizing the conduct of a vote-by-mail election; and
- Requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara to consolidate the general municipal election to be held on November 8, 2011, in the event the Governor calls a statewide special election.

The purpose of the election is to fill three Councilmember seats. The candidate filing period will be July 18 through August 12, 2011. However, the candidate filing period may be extended to August 17, 2011, for persons other than the incumbents should an incumbent who is eligible to file elect not to file. Under the applicable State Elections

Code provision, no incumbent may file during the extended candidate filing period. The terms of Councilmembers Dale Francisco, Randy Rowse and Michael Self will expire in January 2012, and these three offices will be filled at the November 2011 election.

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; there will be no charge to the candidate for the printing of the statement.

### **Potential for Consolidated Election with County of Santa Barbara**

As staff previously reported to Council, the Governor is proposing a Statewide Special Election to be held on November 8, 2011; however, a final determination has not been made as of the writing of this agenda report. Consequently, this report includes a recommendation to adopt a resolution provisionally requesting the County Board of Supervisors to consolidate the City's general municipal election with the statewide special election if such a statewide election is called. If adopted, staff's plan is to forward the resolution to County Elections, requesting County staff to refrain from processing the request unless the Governor calls a statewide election within the period of time allowed for this by the Elections Code and the State Constitution. If this is the case, the City's general municipal election will be managed by the County and held as a traditional poll election at a cost of approximately \$100,000. Per the Elections Code, the deadline for the Governor to call a statewide special election is the 88<sup>th</sup> day prior to election day, which is August 12, 2011.

### **Cancellation of Election Day Council Meeting**

Since the Council Chambers will serve as the Central Counting Center, staff recommends canceling the City Council meeting of Tuesday, November 8, 2011.

### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The Fiscal Year 2012 proposed budget for the City Clerk's Office includes \$300,000 to cover the estimated cost of the election.

**PREPARED BY:** Cynthia M. Rodriguez, CMC, City Clerk Services Manager

**SUBMITTED BY:** Marcelo A. López, Assistant City  
Administrator/Administrative Services Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office