



# Agenda Report

July 29, 2024

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**FROM: DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SERVICES**

**SUBJECT: ADOPT RESOLUTIONS RELATED TO THE CALLING OF A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION OF THE CITY OF PASADENA CONSOLIDATED WITH THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF PASADENA THE PASADENA CENTRAL LIBRARY EARTHQUAKE RETROFIT, REPAIR, UPGRADE MEASURE**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action and the proposed ballot measure are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) ("CEQA") pursuant to Section 15060(c)(2) (the activities will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activities are not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3. State CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(4) excludes "government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities" from its definition of "project" when they "do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment." On its own, voter approval of the proposed bonds will not "commit" the City to issue bonds or construct the Project;
2. Adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Pasadena, California, calling of a General Municipal Election to be held in the City of Pasadena, consolidated with the Statewide General Election held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the City of Pasadena the Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Measure;
3. Adopt a resolution of the City Council of the City of Pasadena, California, setting priorities for the filing written arguments related to a bond measure submitting to the voters of the City of Pasadena the Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit,

Repair, Upgrade Measure, and directing the City Attorney to prepare an impartial analysis of the measure; and

4. Adopt a resolution of the City Council of the City of Pasadena, California, providing for the filing of rebuttal arguments for the Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Measure submitted at a General Municipal Election to be consolidated with the Statewide General Election held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

**BACKGROUND:**

On July 8, 2024, the City Council directed the preparation of election materials to place the Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Bond on the November 5, 2024 General Election ballot. On July 22, 2024, the City Council adopted a Resolution of Necessity and conducted a first reading of an ordinance, ordering the submission of a measure incurring bonded indebtedness to the voters at the November 5, 2024 statewide general election. After a second public reading of the ordinance, the City Council may approve the resolutions related to the calling of a general municipal election of the City of Pasadena consolidated with the Statewide General Election held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for purpose of submitting to voters of the City of Pasadena the Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Measure. Should California voters approve Proposition 5 on the November 5, 2024 ballot, the Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Bond Measure would require a 55% majority of "YES" votes cast by Pasadena voters to be adopted. Should California voters not approve Proposition 5 on the November 5, 2024 ballot, the Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Bond Measure would require a 2/3 majority of "YES" votes cast by Pasadena voters to be adopted.

**PROPOSED BALLOT MEASURE LANGUAGE:**

Following, is the full text of the Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Bond question:

<b>Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Measure</b> Shall the measure to earthquake retrofit the 97-year-old library building; meet current fire safety regulations; replace the leaky roof; remove asbestos/mold/lead paint; update outdated technology; restore Pasadena Central Library services by the City of Pasadena issuing \$195,000,000 in bonds at legal rates, levying \$28.90 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation, generating \$12,000,000 annually while bonds are outstanding, requiring independent audits, public spending disclosure, all funds staying local, be adopted?	<b>YES</b>	
	<b>NO</b>	

Adoption of Resolutions

Adoption of the three resolutions will accomplish the following: (1) formally call the City of Pasadena General Municipal Election for the submission of the Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Bond Measure to City voters; request the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to order the consolidation of the Pasadena General Municipal Election with the Statewide General Election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024; and direct the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters to conduct the election on behalf of the City; (2) set priority order for the filing of written arguments for the measure, and direct the City Attorney to prepare an impartial analysis; and (3) authorize the filing of rebuttal arguments.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There will be additional costs associated with placing this bond measure on the November 5, 2024 General Election ballot. According to estimates provided by the Los Angeles County’s webpage calculator, placing a measure on the November ballot is approximately \$80,000 per measure. The City Clerk’s adopted Fiscal Year 2025 election budget is \$550,000, so any number that exceeds six measures on the ballot may need an additional appropriation to cover the election costs.

The proposed \$195 million bond will have no direct impact on the City’s General Fund nor any other existing funds as all issuance and debt service costs would be included in the annual assessment on real property.

Respectfully submitted,



TIM MCDONALD

Director, Libraries and Information Services

Approved by:



MIGUEL MARQUEZ

City Manager

**Resolutions:**

- Calling and Consolidating Election; and Requesting Election Services from County of Los Angeles (Exhibit A – Pasadena Central Library Earthquake Retrofit, Repair, Upgrade Bond Ordinance text)
- Setting Priorities for Filing Arguments; Directing the City Attorney to Prepare an Impartial Analysis
- Authorizing the Filing of Rebuttal Arguments