

# Agenda Report

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**DATE:** November 30, 1998

**FROM:** CITY CLERK

**SUBJECT:** RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE CANVASS OF THE NOVEMBER 3, 1998 ELECTION - MEASURES M, N, O, P AND Q; AND RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 7690 PERTAINING TO REGULATIONS FOR CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

- (a) Adopt a resolution accepting the canvass of votes certified by the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder for the Special Municipal Election which was consolidated with the Statewide General Election held on November 3, 1998; and
- (b) Adopt a resolution amending Section 4 of Resolution No. 7690, which resolution sets forth regulations relating to candidate statements for the March 9, 1999 election, in order to include a deposit amount for Mayoral candidates; and
- (c) Authorize the Director of Finance to transfer \$28,000 from the General Fund Stabilization Reserve to Elections Account No. 8114-263000.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City Council called a Special Municipal Election to be consolidated with the Statewide General Election held on November 3, 1998, to consider the following measures:

### **Measure M:**

Shall the Mayor be elected for a four year term directly by the voters city-wide as the eighth member of City Council, having all the powers of a member of City Council and of the Mayor as presently contained in the City Charter, and additionally, the duty to present an annual thematic budget message to City Council?

The election resulted in the passage of Measure M by the following vote:

Yes votes: 25,038                      No votes: 8,033

**Measure N:**

If Charter Amendment M receives a majority vote of the electorate voting on the question, when shall the first election of a Mayor directly elected by voters city-wide take place?  
(VOTE FOR ONE DATE ONLY):      MARCH 1999                      MARCH 2001

The election resulted in the passage of Measure N, with the first election of a Mayor directly elected by the voters to take place in March 1999, by the following vote:

March 1999 votes: 16,708                      March 2001 votes: 14,145

**Measure O**

Shall the compensation of the Mayor and City Council be set by a committee, appointed by the City Council by ordinance with the power to recommend to City Council not more than once every two years the appropriate amount of compensation? The City Council may accept, reject or modify the recommendation of the committee, but may not increase the compensation above the level recommended by the committee without voter approval.

The election resulted in the passage of Measure O by the following vote:

Yes votes: 14,928                      No votes: 14,734

**Measure P**

Shall the Mayor and City Council's compensation continue to be fixed in the City Charter but with a revised stipend of \$250 per meeting attended, up to \$1,000 per month for Councilmembers, and a stipend of 150% of the Councilmember's rate for the Mayor, these stipends to be subject to one revision annually by the unanimous vote of the City Council up to the amount of any increase in the consumer price index?

The election resulted in the defeat of Measure P by the following vote:

Yes votes: 12,028                      No votes: 19,057

Measure Q

Shall the Charter be amended to permit, rather than to require that the City operate its water and power utilities through a department of City government, and to permit the operation of the utility through any other form of organization approved by ordinance, with the requirement that the voters must approve any sale of the utilities?

The election resulted in the passage of Measure Q by the following vote:

Yes votes: 17,703                      No votes: 13,811

Amendment to Regulations for Candidate Statements

Resolution No. 7690 was adopted prior to the November 3, 1998 election and sets forth regulations relating to candidate statements for the March 9, 1999 election and the required deposit for the candidate's share of costs. Based on the November 3, 1998 election results adding an eighth member to the City Council as the city-wide elected Mayor, Section 4 of the Resolution needs to be amended to add a deposit cost of \$1,250 for Mayoral candidates that will have a candidate's statement published in the sample ballot pamphlet. This deposit is an estimate of the cost for printing the candidate's statement in English. The City will be printing a bilingual English/Spanish sample ballot pamphlet. The cost for translating and printing the candidate statements in Spanish is paid by the City.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**


It is estimated that the costs for consolidating this special municipal election with the Statewide General Election will be approximately \$40,000. Although funds were not budgeted for this cost in the FY 1999 operating budget, it is anticipated there will be a cost savings of \$27,000 in the Elections Budget due to Council's recent action to do a "targeting" method of providing minority language translations. Thus, an additional \$13,000 will need to be allocated to the Election Budget to off-set this cost.

There will also be increased unbudgeted election costs due to the city-wide Mayoral race. It is estimated the additional costs for the Mayoral race for the March 9, 1998 primary election will be \$15,000. Increased costs for a Mayoral race in the general (run-off) election (if applicable) cannot be determined at this time as the cost will vary depending on whether there are School Board races in the run-off election. Increased costs for the run-off election (if applicable) will need to be addressed after the results of the primary election are known.

November 30, 1998

It is requested that the Director of Finance be authorized to transfer \$28,000 from the General Fund Stabilization Reserve to Elections Account No. 8114-263000 to offset the \$13,000 needed for the November 3, 1998 consolidated election costs and the \$15,000 increased costs for the primary election Mayoral race.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jane L. Rodriguez  
City Clerk

Reviewed by:



---

Nicholas G. Rodriguez  
Assistant City Attorney