

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mayor and City Council

FROM:

Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk, TRMC, CMC

SUBJECT:

An Ordinance Calling the General Election for May 7, 2005

DATE:

Thursday, February 10, 2005

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance will officially call the General Election to be held jointly with Northside Independent School District (NISD) on Saturday, May 7, 2005.

This ordinance authorizes the conduct of the election, lists precincts by district that will be used by the City of San Antonio in the election (Attachment A), establishes early voting and election day voting sites (Attachments B & C respectively), sets forth routine procedures for early voting and provides for public notice.

The Office of the City Clerk recommends approval of this ordinance in order to submit the necessary information to the U.S. Department of Justice.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The election is ordered and conducted in accordance with the Voting Rights Act, Texas Election Code, and the provisions established in the Charter of the City of San Antonio.

POLICY ANALYSIS

The calendar leading up to the May 7, 2005, election is as follows:

Thursday, February 10, 2005 City Council approves the ordinance calling the Election

Friday, February 18, 2005 Submission to U.S. Department of Justice

Wednesday, April 20, 2005 First day of Early Voting by personal appearance

Tuesday, May 3, 2005 Last day of Early Voting by personal appearance

Saturday, May 7, 2005 Election day from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The election is estimated to cost \$905,000.00. This amount represents 85% of the total cost of the election. The remaining 15% will be paid for by Northside Independent School District.

However, this cost does not reflect additional programming costs needed for City of San Antonio voters who reside in the limited purpose annexation area. As per Sections 42 and 43 of the Local Government Code, voters residing within the limited purpose annexation area are not allowed to vote on sales tax measures. Additionally, this cost does not take into consideration the cost associated with conducting a run-off election.

An ordinance contracting with the Bexar County Elections Administrator for election services will be presented to City Council at a later date at which time the final cost will be presented.

COORDINATION

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The Office of the City Clerk has coordinated this proposed ordinance with the City Attorney's Office, Office of Management and Budget, the Planning Department as well as the Bexar County Election Administrator's Office.

Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk, TRMC, CMC