



**TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:**

DATE: May 27, 2014

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

**Report in Brief**

A general municipal election will be held in the City of Concord on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, under the provisions of the laws relating to general law cities in the State of California. The purpose of the election is to choose successors for the term expirations of Councilmembers Tim Grayson, Laura Hoffmeister and Ron Leone, and City Treasurer Thomas Wentling.

The City Clerk recommends that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 14-31, calling for a general municipal election on November 4, 2014, for the purpose of electing three members of the City Council and one City Treasurer, each for full terms of four years.

**Background**

On May 26, 1998, the City Council adopted Ordinance 98-54 to change the date of the City's general municipal elections from the odd-numbered years to the even-numbered years in November to consolidate election cycles with the statewide general election cycle. The purpose of the consolidation was to increase voter participation and to reduce the cost of the election to taxpayers. The ordinance states that a general municipal election shall occur on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in even-numbered years.

On August 4, 1998, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors approved the consolidation with the statewide general election held in November of each even-numbered year. The County Elections Division provides certain election services to the City of Concord.

On December 14, 1981, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 81-6645, approving regulations pertaining to the printing of the candidate statement in the voter's pamphlet and setting the word limit for the statement at 400 words. In 1985, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 85-112, amending Resolution No. 81-6645 and reaffirming the 400-word limit. In 1992, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 92-117, amending Resolution No. 85-112 and reaffirming the 400-word limit. In 2002, the City Council adopted Resolution 02-46, amending Resolution No. 92-117, setting the word limit for candidate statements at 300 words as requested by the County Elections Division in an effort to reduce election costs by confining each candidate statement to one page.

# RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

May 27, 2014

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## Discussion

Pursuant to the requirements of the laws of the State of California relating to general law cities, the City Council is required to adopt a resolution calling and ordering a general municipal election to be held in the City of Concord on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. Due to expiring terms, it is necessary to elect three Councilmembers and one City Treasurer for full terms of four years. The resolution also sets forth other particulars of the election, including setting the word limit for candidate statements to 250 words as requested by the County Elections Division due to changes in the way voter pamphlets are printed, and authorizes the City Clerk, as the election official for the City of Concord, to work with the Contra Costa County Elections Division as needed in order to properly and lawfully conduct the election.

## Public Contact

Posting of the Council agenda. The Notice of Election will also be published in the Contra Costa Times, as required by law, during the nomination period. Requirements pertaining to the election will be included in the Election Guide 2014 given to each candidate for office in the November 4, 2014 election.

## Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends the City Council adopt Resolution No. 14-31, calling and giving notice of a general municipal election to be held in the City of Concord on Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

Prepared by: Joelle Fockler  
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Reviewed by: Mary Rae Lehman  
City Clerk  
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Attachment 1: Resolution No. 14-31

**BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CONCORD  
COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**A Resolution Calling For and Giving Notice of a  
General Municipal Election to be Held on Tuesday,  
November 4, 2014, for the Election of Certain  
Municipal Officers**

**Resolution No. 14-31**

**WHEREAS**, under the provisions of the laws relating to general law cities in the State of California, a general municipal election shall be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, for the election of certain municipal officers; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 26, 1998, the Concord City Council adopted Ordinance 98-54 to change the date of the general municipal election from the odd-numbered years to the even-numbered years in November; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 4, 1998, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors approved the consolidation with the statewide general election held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CONCORD DOES  
RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** Pursuant to the requirements of the laws of the State of California relating to general law cities, there is called and ordered to be held in the City of Concord, on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, a general municipal election for the purpose of electing three (3) members of the City Council, and one (1) City Treasurer.

**Section 2.** The City Clerk is authorized, instructed and directed to work with the County Elections Division as needed in order to properly and lawfully conduct the election. The ballots to be used in the election shall be in form and content as required by law. The County Elections Division is authorized to canvass the returns of the general municipal election.

**Section 3.** The Board of Supervisors is requested to instruct the County Elections Division to provide such services as may be necessary for the holding of the consolidated election. The election shall be held in all respects as if there were only one election. The City of Concord recognizes that

1 the County will incur additional costs because of this consolidation and agrees to reimburse the  
2 County for those costs.

3 **Section 4.** The polls for the election shall be open at 7 a.m. on the day of the election and  
4 shall remain open continuously from that time until 8 p.m. that same day, when the polls shall be  
5 closed, except as provided in Section 14401 of the Elections Code of the State of California. The  
6 notice of the time and place of holding the election is hereby given, and the City Clerk is authorized to  
7 give further notice of the election, as required by law.

8 **Section 5.** Candidate Statements will be limited to 250 words, and the costs associated with  
9 the publication of said statements in appropriate, required languages will be collected from the  
10 submitting candidate at the time of filing. The estimated cost for a candidate statement, as stated by  
11 the County Elections Division, is \$762.50.

12 **Section 6.** In the event two or more candidates receive an equal number of votes, the  
13 resolution of a tie vote will be by lot, pursuant to Section 15651 of the Elections Code of the State of  
14 California.

15 **Section 7.** The City Clerk is directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Contra  
16 Costa County Board of Supervisors and the County Elections Division.

17 **Section 8.** This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

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1           **PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Concord on May 27, 2014, by  
2 the following vote:

3 **AYES:**           Councilmembers -

4 **NOES:**           Councilmembers -

5 **ABSTAIN:**       Councilmembers -

6 **ABSENT:**        Councilmembers -

7           **I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing Resolution No. 14-31 was duly and regularly  
8 adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Concord on May 27, 2014.

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Mary Rae Lehman, CMC  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Mark S. Coon  
City Attorney

cc: County Elections Division  
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors