

ORDINANCE NUMBER O- 20723 (NEW SERIES)

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE AUG 02 2016

AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION AT THE MUNICIPAL SPECIAL ELECTION, CONSOLIDATED WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016, ONE MEASURE AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER BY AMENDING ARTICLE II, SECTION 10, RELATING TO RUN-OFF ELECTIONS FOR MAYOR, CITY ATTORNEY AND COUNCILMEMBERS.

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Constitution, article XI, section 3(b), California Elections Code (Elections Code) section 9255(a)(2), and San Diego City Charter (Charter) section 223, the Council of the City of San Diego (Council) has authority to place Charter amendments on the ballot to be considered at a Municipal Election; and

WHEREAS, by San Diego Ordinance O-20671, introduced and adopted on July 11, 2016, the Council has called a Municipal Special Election to be consolidated with the California State General Election to be held November 8, 2016, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City one or more ballot measures; and

WHEREAS, the Council now desires to submit to the voters at the Municipal Special Election one measure amending the Charter by amending Article II, section 10, relating to run-off elections for Mayor, City Attorney and Councilmembers; and

WHEREAS, the nomination and election of the City's Mayor, City Attorney, and nine Councilmembers is governed by San Diego Charter, Article II, and, as set forth in Charter section 8, by the City's Election Code Ordinance in the San Diego Municipal Code, which shall provide "an adequate and complete procedure to govern municipal elections, including the nomination of candidates for all elective offices"; and

WHEREAS, Charter section 10 provides that all elective officers of the City shall be nominated at a Municipal Primary Election, to be held on the same date as the California State Primary Election in a given year; and

WHEREAS, Charter section 10 further provides that, in the event one candidate receives the majority of votes cast for all candidates in the primary election for a particular elective office, the candidate receiving such majority of votes shall be deemed to be, and declared by the Council to be, elected to the office; and

WHEREAS, Charter section 10 further provides that, in the event no candidate receives a majority of votes cast in the Municipal Primary Election, the two candidates who have received the highest number of votes for a particular office shall be the candidates, and only candidates, to advance to a Municipal General Election, to be held the same day as the California State General Election in a given year; and

WHEREAS, the Council now desires to amend the Charter to eliminate the provision that elects a candidate to office if the candidate receives a majority of the vote in the Municipal Primary Election; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment would require the two candidates receiving the most votes in the Municipal Primary Election to face a run-off election in the Municipal General Election, regardless of whether a candidate received a majority vote in the Municipal Primary Election; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment also would allow a candidate to be declared elected to an office in the Municipal Primary Election if that candidate was the sole candidate who qualified for the primary ballot for that office; and

WHEREAS, the Charter language to be amended has been in effect for at least 60 years for the offices of Mayor and City Attorney, and was amended to also apply to Councilmember elections when the City moved to a district election system in 1988; and

WHEREAS, the Charter amendments were proposed by a citizens' organization and heard by the Council's Rules Committee on June 15, 2016, and are presented in this ordinance for placement on the November 8, 2016 Municipal Special Election ballot; and

WHEREAS, the Council's proposal, on its own motion, of a Charter amendment is governed by California Constitution, article XI, section 3(b), Elections Code section 9255(a)(2), and Government Code section 34458, and is not subject to veto by the Mayor; NOW,

THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, as follows:

Section 1. That one measure amending the City Charter by amending Article II, section 10, related to run-off elections for Mayor, City Attorney and Councilmembers, is hereby submitted to the qualified voters at the Municipal Special Election to be held on November 8, 2016, and consolidated with the California State General Election to be held on the same date, with the measure to read as follows:

MEASURE

ARTICLE II

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 10 ELECTIONS:

Elective officers of the City shall be nominated and elected by all of the electors of the City except that City Council members shall be nominated and elected by the electors of the district for which elective office they are a candidate.

Commencing with the year 1996, the municipal primary elections to the office of Council member for Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7 shall be held on same date in each election year as the California State primary election, and the general municipal election for these offices shall be

held on the same date as the California State general election for that year. Commencing with the year 2012, the election to the office of Council member for District 9 shall be held on the same date as the election to the office of Council member for Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7.

Commencing with the year 1998, the municipal primary elections to the offices of Council member for Districts 2, 4, 6, and 8 shall be held on same date in each election year as the California State primary election, and the general municipal election for these offices shall be held on the same date as the California State general election for that year.

Commencing with the next municipal primary and general elections following the redistricting occurring after the 2010 national decennial census, and every four years thereafter, the municipal primary and general elections to the office of Council District 9 shall be held.

Commencing with the year 1984 the elections to the offices of Mayor and City Attorney shall be held every four (4) years. The municipal primary election for the offices of Mayor and City Attorney shall be held on the same date in each election year as the California State primary election, and the general municipal election for these offices shall be held on the same date as the California State general election for that year. All other municipal elections which may be held under this Charter shall be known as special municipal elections.

All elective officers of the City shall be nominated at the municipal primary election. ~~In the event one candidate receives the majority of votes cast for all candidates for nomination to a particular elective office, the candidate so receiving such majority of votes shall be deemed to be and declared by the Council to be elected to such office. In the event no candidate receives a majority of votes cast as aforesaid,~~ The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes for

a particular elective office at ~~said~~ the primary shall be the candidates, and only candidates, for such office and the names of only those two candidates shall be printed upon the ballots to be used at the general municipal election. In the event only one candidate has qualified for the ballot in the municipal primary election for a particular elective office, the sole qualified candidate receiving votes in the municipal primary election shall be deemed to be, and declared by the Council to be, elected to such office after the primary election results are certified.

At the general municipal election held for the purpose of electing Council members, ~~other than the Mayor~~ the electors of each Council district shall select from among the candidates chosen at the primary election in that district one candidate for the office of the Council member whose term expires the succeeding December. At the general municipal election held for the purpose of electing any other elective officer, there shall be chosen by all of the electors of the whole City from among the candidates chosen at the primary one candidate to succeed any other elective officer whose term expires in December succeeding the election.

After the result of an election for any office is declared, or when an appointment is made, the City Clerk, under his or her hand and official seal, shall issue a certificate therefor, and shall deliver the same immediately to the person elected or appointed, and such person must within ten days after receiving such certificate file his official bond, if one be required for his office, and take and subscribe to the oath of office required of him by this Charter, which oath must be filed with the City Clerk.

END OF MEASURE

Section 2. The measure shall be presented and printed upon the ballot and submitted to the voters in the manner and form set out in Section 3 of this ordinance.

Section 3. On the ballot to be used at this Municipal Special Election, in addition to any other matters required by law, there shall be printed substantially the following:

MEASURE __. CHARTER AMENDMENT REQUIRING RUN-OFF ELECTION FOR THE OFFICES OF MAYOR, CITY ATTORNEY AND COUNCILMEMBER. Shall the Charter be amended to eliminate the provision that elects a candidate for Mayor, City Attorney, or Councilmember to office if the candidate receives a majority vote in the June primary election, and instead require a run-off election at the November general election between the two candidates who received the most votes in the primary election?	YES	
	NO	

Section 4. An appropriate mark placed in the voting square after the word “Yes” shall be counted in favor of the adoption of this measure. An appropriate mark placed in the voting square after the word “No” shall be counted against the adoption of the measure.

Section 5. Passage of this measure requires the affirmative vote of a majority of those qualified electors voting on the matter at the Municipal Special Election.

Section 6. The City Clerk shall cause this ordinance or a digest of this ordinance to be published once in the official newspaper following this ordinance’s adoption by the City Council.

Section 7. Pursuant to San Diego Municipal Code section 27.0402, this measure will be available for public examination for no fewer than ten calendar days prior to being submitted for printing in the sample ballot. During the examination period, any voter registered in the City may seek a writ of mandate or an injunction requiring any or all of the measure to be amended or deleted. The examination period will end on the day that is 75 days prior to the date set for the election. The Clerk shall post notice of the specific dates that the examination period will run.

Section 8. A full reading of this ordinance is dispensed with prior to its passage, a written or printed copy having been available to the City Council and the public prior to the day of its passage.

Section 9. Pursuant to sections 295(b) and 295(d) of the Charter of the City of San Diego, this ordinance shall take effect on the date of passage by the City Council, which is deemed the date of its final passage.

APPROVED AS TO FORM: JAN I. GOLDSMITH, City Attorney

By 
Sharon B. Spivak
Deputy City Attorney

SBS:jdf
07/27/16
08/02/16 REV.
Or.Dept: Council
Doc. No.: 1329112

Passed by the Council of The City of San Diego on AUG 02 2016, by the following vote:

Council Members	Yeas	Nays	Not Present	Recused
Sherri Lightner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lorie Zapf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Todd Gloria	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Myrtle Cole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mark Kersey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chris Cate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Sherman	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
David Alvarez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marti Emerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Date of final passage AUG 02 2016.

AUTHENTICATED BY:

KEVIN L. FAULCONER
Mayor of The City of San Diego, California.

(Seal)

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

By Stacy Brady, Deputy

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing ordinance was passed on the day of its introduction, to wit, on AUG 02 2016, said ordinance being of the kind and character authorized for passage on its introduction by Section 295 of the Charter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that said ordinance was read in full prior to passage or that such reading was dispensed with by a vote of five members of the Council, and that a written copy of the ordinance was made available to each member of the Council and the public prior to the day of its passage.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

(Seal)

By Stacy Brady, Deputy

Office of the City Clerk, San Diego, California

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