



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

REPORT**TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

DATE: March 21, 2007

REPORT NO.: 07-01

SUBJECT: CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

On March 15, 2007, Senate Bill 113 (SB 113) was signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger and chaptered by the Secretary of State, moving the date of California's next presidential primary to February 5, 2008.

The passage of SB 113 has amended the California Elections Code so that California's presidential primaries will be held on the first Tuesday in February in any year evenly divisible by the number four. However, statewide direct primaries will continue to be held in June of each even-numbered year, and the presidential primary is not to be consolidated with the statewide direct primary in those years evenly divisible by four.

SB 113 has also amended the California Elections Code so that elections held in June and November of each even-numbered year and held the first Tuesday in February of each year evenly divisible by the number four are statewide elections. Additionally, while the February date has been made a statewide election date, it appears to be so only in those years evenly divisible by four.

At the time this report was completed, the City Attorney's Report was not available, and it wasn't clear where he stood with regard to consolidation. In the event that the City Attorney advises that the city's municipal primary can be consolidated with the February presidential primary, it is not my recommendation that the Rules Committee consider moving the 2008 City officeholder elections from June to February. This is largely because the February election date is scheduled only for years evenly divisible by the number four. Thus, moving the 2008 candidate elections would place the seats for Mayor, City Attorney, and odd-numbered Council districts on the February ballot. In 2010, however, there is no February statewide election date; the seats for the even-numbered Council districts would be on the June ballot, consolidated with the statewide direct primary for that year. In both years, the general election remains scheduled in November.

The disparity between the 2008 and 2010 election cycles is likely to prove confusing to both candidates and voters. Additionally, candidates elected outright in the 2008 primary will not begin their terms of office until December of that year, nine months after the election.

However, the City may consider whether or not to call a special election for the purpose of placing a ballot measure (or measures) before the voters on the February ballot.

Calendar

The deadline for submitting all material to the Registrar of Voters for the February 5, 2008 election is November 9, 2007. Thus, the Council has the month of October to approve the placement of propositions on that ballot (noting that the first week of October is a Legislative Recess). The Rules Committee would be considering potential propositions in September (the deadline for members of the public to submit potential ballot propositions is September 14th). A calendar (Attachment A) has been included with the details of the deadlines for the 2008 elections for your information.

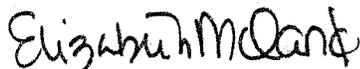
Costs

The Registrar of Voters (ROV) is unable to provide an estimate of the cost per ballot for the February presidential primary at this time. However, the ROV has indicated that the estimate for a single ballot citywide in June 2008 would be between \$450,000 - \$500,000. It is the ROV's further opinion that the costs associated with the February election are likely to be higher.

Some factors that may impact the cost of a ballot measure for the City of San Diego:

- The Secretary of State's decision about touch-screen technology.
- The number of jurisdictions that choose to participate in February vs. June.
- The number of pages necessary for the ballot measure, which impacts the translation and printing costs.
- The number of registered voters in the City.

Please feel free to contact me or Bonnie Stone at 619-533-4060 with any questions.



Elizabeth Maland
City Clerk

cc: Mayor Jerry Sanders
Ronne Froman, Chief Operating Officer
Michael Aguirre, City Attorney

2008 ELECTION DEADLINES

	Feb. 5, 2008	June 3, 2008	Nov. 4, 2008
Nominating period opens	10/10/07 (E-118)	2/6/08 (E-118)	n.a.
Nominating period closes	11/8/07 (E-89)	3/6/08 (E-89)	n.a.
Submit Charter Amendment petition signatures. Process differs from initiative petition process in that Charter Amendments are governed by state law, which allows a longer time for verification than the City's process for initiative verification.	8/14/07 (E-175) Recommended target to file petition. May be flexible depending upon length of time required to collect and verify signatures.	12/7/07 (E-179) Recommended target to file petition. May be flexible depending upon length of time required to collect and verify signatures.	5/13/08 (E-175) Recommended target to file petition. May be flexible depending upon length of time required to collect and verify signatures.
Submit initiative petition signatures. Process differs from Charter Amendment process in that initiatives are governed by the Municipal Code, which allows a shorter time for verification than state law.	8/24/07 (E-165) Recommended target to file petition. May be flexible depending upon length of time required to collect and verify signatures.	12/21/07 (E-165) Recommended target to file petition. May be flexible depending upon length of time required to collect and verify signatures.	6/3/08 (E-154) Recommended target to file petition. May be flexible depending upon length of time required to collect and verify signatures.
Deadline for public to submit ballot proposals for Rules Committee review [subject to the legislative calendar, not yet adopted for CY 2008, and to potential changes to Council Policy 000-21]	9/14/07 (E-144)	1/18/08 (E-137)	6/20/08 (E-137)
Rules meets to review and approve or reject public's ballot proposals [subject to the legislative calendar, not yet adopted for CY 2008]	9/19/07 (E-139)	1/23/08 (E-132)	6/25/08 (E-132)
Council directs Attorney to prepare necessary resolutions and ordinances for city-wide election. Potential ballot propositions from Rules, the Mayor, independent department directors, or a public agency are docketed.	10/8/07 (E-120)	2/4/08 (E-120)	7/7/08 (E-120)
Council adopts propositions to be placed on the ballot	10/8/07-10/29/07 (E-120 – E-99)	2/4/08-2/25/08 (E-120 – E-99)	7/7/08-7/28/08 (E-120 – E-99)
All materials to ROV	11/9/07 (E-88)	3/7/08 (E-88)	8/8/08 (E-88)
Impartial analyses due	11/19/07 (E-78)	3/17/08 (E-78)	8/18/08 (E-78)
Arguments due	11/26/07 (E-71)	3/20/08 (E-75)	8/21/08 (E-75)