

ELECTION REFORM

**City Council
April 2, 2024
ITEM #7-D**



Prior Council Actions

A 2020 Charter Review Subcommittee resulted in three ballot measures being presented to voters at the past two elections:

- 2020 City Prosecutor (passed)**
- 2020 Article 26 (failed)**
- 2022 Council Salary (passed)**



Candidate Statement

Current:

- **\$100 deposit**
- **Actual costs billed after election**
 - **2020 over \$4,000 and 2022 just under \$4,000**
- **Actual amount can differ from estimate**
- **Final bill can be very delayed**
 - **Candidates might want to terminate campaign committees earlier**



Candidate Statement

Proposal:

- **\$100 deposit**
- **\$900 billed after election**
- **Candidates know amount and have time to raise/save funds**
- **Will decrease cost recovery**
- **Requires upfront payment if a candidate has a balance due from prior election (implements Referral)**



Election Reform

- **Election reform included as a Strategic Priorities Project**
- **Referral submitted by Vice Mayor Daysog proposes to increase the size of the Council**
- **Initiative not filed proposed to add Ranked Choice Voting to the City Charter**
- **District elections could be established if the City receives a demand letter or if voters adopt a Charter amendment**
 - **FAIRS MAPS Act of 2023 revised State regulations**
- **Council can raise other issues of interest**



Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends Council adopt the resolution pertaining to candidate statement regulations and Council can also provide direction on any other election issues

