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PRESS RELEASE

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COUNCILMEMBER JOSE HUIZAR CALLS FOR ELECTION REFORM **Instant Runoff Voting Would Save City Millions**

LOS ANGELES—Today Councilmember José Huizar introduced a Council Motion calling for the City to consider adopting Instant Runoff Voting, an election reform already implemented in San Francisco, Minneapolis, and cities nationwide.

Instant Runoff Voting allows voters to rank their first, second and third choices, and elects majority winners in a single election. The reform would eliminate the need for runoff elections, which historically have had very low turnout in Los Angeles. The reform would apply to City elections for Mayor, City Attorney, Controller, and City Council.

“Instant Runoff Voting is a win-win proposition for our democracy,” said Councilmember Huizar.

“This approach is much fairer to voters, who will only have to go to the polls once to have every vote count. At the same time, our City would save millions of dollars needlessly spent on runoff elections,” he said.

Between 2001 and 2005, the City of Los Angeles spent \$9.2 million to administer runoff elections. In 2005 the cost was \$4.7 million.

Council President Eric Garcetti, the Chair of the City’s Rules and Elections Committee, seconded the Council Motion.

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