

TO CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED

#51

EDUCATION & NEIGHBORHOODS

RULES & ELECTIONS

Rule 16

09-1115-51

MOTION

DEC 01 2009

As directed by the City Council, the City Clerk will administer 89 Neighborhood Council (NC) Board Elections in Spring 2010. The City Clerk's Elections Division has spent most of the 2009 calendar year developing NC election rules and regulations and preparing to manage the unprecedented number, variety and unique nature of these NC Board elections.

The City's 89 NCs will be divided into 9 regions, so there will be 9 separate election dates. But there will still be 89 polling locations staffed, supplied, open and available throughout the 9 regions affected. It is estimated that as many as 1,500 or more board seats may be up for election. It is possible that the Clerk could process more than 6,500 potential candidates for all 9 election regions. The Clerk also anticipates having over 400 distinct ballot types, versus 53-58 ballot types in a typical municipal election.

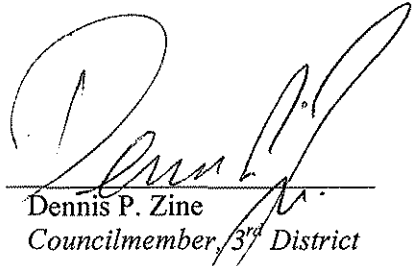
The Administrative Code currently states that the City's NC elections will be conducted in the months of April, May and June in even-numbered years. However, based on its 2008 experience handling 22 Neighborhood Council elections, the City Clerk is recommending the addition of an extra month so that the NC elections can be conducted in from March through June of even-numbered years. This one month expansion will allow the City Clerk, with its limited Election staff and budget, to more evenly distribute the 89 NC Board Member Elections over a more manageable time frame.

This proposal to add an additional month to the NC election schedule was developed by the City Clerk in consultation with the Neighborhood Councils. It has been reviewed by the City Attorney and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, and presented to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners who offered no objection.

An amended ordinance to add the month of March to the NC election schedule would need to be adopted by Council and be effective as soon as possible before March 2009. The Clerk will enter active election mode this week when the first region, Region A (northwest San Fernando Valley), commences its Candidate Filing on December 2, 2009.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney prepare and present an Ordinance to amend Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 20.36, and also prepare amendments to the City's Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils if necessary, to allow the City Clerk to conduct Neighborhood Council Board Elections during the months of March, April, May and June of each even-numbered year.

ORIGINAL

PRESENTED BY: 
Dennis P. Zine
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY: 
Eric Garcetti
Councilmember, 13th District

DEC 1 2009

