

**12-1269-S5 -- Ethics Transmittal dated August 30, 2018 -- Ryu-Martinez!**

Eric Preven &lt;esp3800@aol.com&gt;

Sat, Sep 8, 2018 at 12:16 PM

To: heather.holt@lacity.org, patrice.lattimore@lacity.org

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PLEASE ADD TO Council File: **12-1269-S5****Holly Wolcott**

Honorable City Clerk, (Pls distribute to Council)

**Heather Holt**

Executive Director, Ethics Commission (Pls distribute to Ethics Commissioners)

**Paul Habib**

14th Council District Chief of Staff, VACATION of City property specialist\*\*

Hope all is well.

1) Please ask Renee Stadel, the Assistant City Attorney who has been steadfastly avoidant of each and every public entreaty to discuss the campaign finance ordinance with her office and to find out from her on what legal basis a contribution from a candidate's immediate family has been blocked from qualifying for the public matching fund program? It has become a tight deadline.

**SEC 49.7.2 T**

"Qualified contribution means a contribution that meets all of the following criteria:

1. The contribution is lawful under federal, state and City law.
2. The contribution was received by a participating candidate.
3. **The contribution was not received from the participating candidate or the participating candidate's immediate family.**
4. The contribution was received from an individual residing within the City
5. The contribution is monetary and is not a loan or pledge
6. The contribution was received no later than three months after the date of the election, no earlier than the opening of the applicable fundraising window in Section 49.7.10, and no earlier than the... *proposed*: [date on which the candidate filed a Declaration of Intent to Solicit and Receive Contributions for that election.]

2) Also, wanted to double check that despite all of the testimony about LOSING the '**minimum amounts**' of **qualified contributions threshold**, and the fact that significantly more than half of the ballot qualified council district candidates who ALL gathered 500 good in-district signatures to qualify for the ballot in 2015 never gained access to the public matching fund program at all, the Ethics commission under **Serena Oberstein** has made no adjustments to the pernicious and mission-sinking thresholds (\$25,000 for City Council; \$75,000 for Controller or City Attorney; \$150,000 for Mayor) Is that correct?

3) For the purposes of the matching fund requirement "**Debate**" means a discussion between two or more candidates who have qualified to appear on a ballot for elected City office that is moderated by an independent third party and attended by the public. Correct? A "**Town Hall Meeting**" means an event conducted by a **participating candidate**, at which the public is able to ask the candidate questions, and which is open to the public, and other candidates.

Correct me if I am wrong, but nothing would prevent a participating candidate from scheduling his or her Town Hall meeting to avoid other candidates, right? And allowing other candidates to attend a Town Hall does not guarantee equal time or face-to-face dialogue or frankly anything beyond the right to attend, right?

4) Finally, this is a CPRA for each email and eblast or public posting that has been conducted or issued by the City Ethics Commission (or any other city agency) alerting the people and stakeholders of the City of Los Angeles to the fact that the Council President is gearing up to make significant revisions to the currently incumbent-serving matching fund program. A council district candidate who would have maxed out at \$225,000 (like Carol Ramsay) will now be eligible for \$340,000 in public matching money. **A 51% increase, CPI.** The 6:1 match will help qualifiers gobble down the **extra \$115,000**, while doing nothing for grassroots candidates stymied by the onerous and so far untouched threshold.

The public has scoured the Ethics Commission's website but was unable to locate a single link to the August 30, 2018 Transmittal. No effort to educate or alert the public to the fact that the Rules Committee, populated by three powerful

incumbents Wesson-Huizar-Harris/Dawson are about to move quickly and deliberately with the minimum notice on a rather complex incumbent-serving proposal could be identified.

The current commission President Serena Oberstein, an immediate family member of **Jeremy Oberstein**, "a believer in working on change from the inside" of Councilmember Krekorian's office, the LAFD Task force, and currently as Chief of staff for the Controller Ron Galperin, is far off course. **Disclosure:** Mr. Galperin would have maxed out at a measly \$567,000 in public matching money for his upcoming Controller race but thanks to the wife of his Chief of staff, he may now be eligible to grab an eye-popping \$856,000 of public matching money. The 6:1 match will certainly help Mr. Galperin gobble down an **extra \$289,000** while doing less than nothing for grassroots candidates.

Whereas the Los Angeles Times coverage framed David Ryu as a reformer battling for accountability despite his illogical and illegal proposal to ban developer contributions, it has not yet explained any of the terms that are actually being proposed:

At Tuesday's meeting, the Ethics Commission backed several recommendations to boost taxpayer funding for candidates who meet certain city requirements. Those recommendations now head to the council for its approval.

Kindly confirm receipt and send over ALL of the 'emails and eblasts or public postings' about the David Ryu led reform.

Signature gathering is synonymous with America and Five dollar bills and Nury Martinez and the FBI. In recognition of Jim Dantona, who has been right behind Nury Martinez, as her chief of staff, it is appropriate to request that any election reform citywide or in the neighborhood council arena heretofore be tagged **Ryu-Martinez!** To celebrate equality!!

There's plenty of reform to go around!

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