

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MOTION

The decennial federal census is one of the most significant elements in the U.S. Constitution. Data generated in the census affects political representation at all levels of government and is the basis for the distribution of billions of dollars in federal funding. An accurate census is essential to ensure fair political representation in Washington D.C. and Sacramento, as well as equitable funding for public safety, economic and community development, and transportation funding.

Although the next census will not occur until April 1, 2020, substantial planning and work effort on many technical issues is completed years in advance of the actual count. The U.S. Census Bureau must develop accurate address lists and geographic files so they can distribute census questionnaires to every person in the nation, and then follow up with census takers to make sure that everyone was counted. In addition to address information, the Bureau must evaluate local jurisdiction boundaries, census tract boundaries, streets, and group quarter facilities.

The City has historically made every effort at this crucial early stage to ensure the upcoming decennial census is accurate and that all City residents are counted. Work must begin immediately to ensure that complete and accurate address data is available to the U.S. Census Bureau. Many City departments collect and manage address information. This information must be made available and coordinated. Advance planning is also needed to address future technical issues, as well as to prepare for the Complete Count Committee that will address public information and outreach needs leading up to 2020.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and City Administrative Officer (CAO), with the assistance of the City Attorney and the Mayor, to coordinate the City's preparations for the 2020 Decennial Census; and

I FURTHER MOVE that the Planning Department, Information Technology Agency, Housing and Community Investment Department, Police Department, Fire Department, City Clerk, Economic and Workforce Development Department, Building and Safety Department, Department of Water and Power, Bureau of Engineering, and Neighborhood Empowerment to each: (1) assign a point person to be responsible for Census 2020 issues, (2) submit this name to the CLA and CAO, and (3) develop a work program to address how it will assist with the Census 2020 program, including anticipated departmental budgetary requirements.

Presented by:



HERB J. WESSON, JR.
Councilmember, 10th District

Seconded by:



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