

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance calling a Special Election to be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2015, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Los Angeles a Charter Amendment changing City election dates and consolidating this Special Election with the City's Primary Nominating Election to be held on the same date.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. A Special Election is hereby called to be held in the City of Los Angeles on March 3, 2015, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City a certain Charter amendment ordered submitted by the Council of the City of Los Angeles.

Sec. 2. The ballot title and question to be used at the Special Election for the measure to be submitted to the qualified voters of the City of Los Angeles shall be:

**NEW CITY ELECTION DATES AND SCHEDULES; ONE-TIME ADJUSTMENT
TO ALIGN TERMS WITH NEW ELECTION DATES BY 2020. CHARTER
AMENDMENT ____.**

Shall the City Charter be amended to: 1) change the City's primary and general election dates to June and November of even-numbered years beginning in 2020 so that City elections are held on the same dates as Federal and State elections; 2) provide that, in 2015 and 2017 only, candidates be elected for a term of 5½ years to transition to the new election dates; 3) adjust vacancy election schedules and allow temporary appointments to fill vacant offices until an election is held; 4) enable initiative and referendum elections to be scheduled at either the next City or next State election; and 5) allow initiative proponents to withdraw their measure prior to scheduling an election?

Sec. 3. The measure shall be designated on the ballot or ballot pages by a letter or number determined by the City Council in accordance with applicable City and state laws. Upon the designation by the proper officials of the letter or number to be assigned to the measure, that letter or number is hereby adopted and shall be the designation for the ballot title.

Sec. 4. To vote on the measure, the voter shall mark the ballot next to the word "Yes" or the word "No." A "Yes" vote shall be counted in favor of adoption of the measure, and a "No" vote shall be counted against adoption of the measure.

Sec. 5. The Special Election hereby called shall be, and hereby is ordered to be, consolidated with the City's Primary Nominating Election to be held in the City of Los Angeles on Tuesday, March 3, 2015.

Sec. 6. The voting polls on election day shall open at 7:00 a.m., March 3, 2015, and shall remain open until 8:00 p.m. of the same day when the voting polls shall be closed, except as provided in City Election Code Section 857.

Sec. 7. The election precincts, polling places and, officers of election for the Special Election shall be the same as those provided in the City of Los Angeles for the Primary Nominating Election, and the elections shall be held in all respects as if there were only one election. Furthermore, for the precincts, polling places, and officers of election, reference is hereby made to the list that will be prepared and approved by the City Clerk and filed in the City Clerk's Office not later than February 3, 2015, and that list is incorporated into and made part of this ordinance.

Sec. 8. In all other particulars, the Special Election shall be held and conducted as provided by law for the conduct of the Primary Nominating Election in the City of Los Angeles.

Sec. 9. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

I hereby certify that this ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, at its meeting of _____.

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT, City Clerk


By _____
Deputy

Approved _____

Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legality

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By  _____
HARIT U. TRIVEDI
Deputy City Attorney

Date 10/29/14

File No. _____

CHARTER AMENDMENTS REGARDING NEW CITY AND LAUSD ELECTION DATES

Summary of Proposed Changes to Charter Language

Section	Subject	Change
401	Election Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change election dates to June and November of even-numbered years starting in 2020 so that City and LAUSD elections take place on the same dates as Federal and State elections
204(a), (c)	Redistricting Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjust redistricting schedule ahead by 6 months so that new Council district lines are in place before 2022 elections
204(g)	Anniversary of Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide that even-numbered Council district elections are every four years from 2020, and odd-numbered district elections are every four years from 2022
205	Term of Office Start Date of Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide that, in 2015 and 2017 only, candidates be elected for a 5½ year term to transition to the new election dates • Start term of office on second Monday in December under new election dates
206	Term Limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify that 5½ year term to align terms with election dates counts as one term
402	Election Ordinance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify that ordinance calling the election will specify whether election is conducted by Clerk or consolidated and conducted by County
403, 406, 412, 424, 426	Election Code	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify that City Election Code and rules regarding matters such as poll workers, recounts and ballot design, only apply to elections conducted by Clerk
404	Canvass Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend canvass period from 21 to 28 days
409, 410	Vacancies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjust vacancy schedule to conform to new election dates • Allow interim appointments pending vacancy election
432	Recall Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjust recall election window to facilitate consolidation with State elections
452, 453, 462	Initiatives Referendums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow Council to place initiative and referendum measures on either the next city election or the next state election • Allow proponents to withdraw initiative petition prior to Council action
802(a), (c)	LAUSD Redistricting Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjust LAUSD redistricting schedule ahead by 6 months so that new Board district lines are in place before 2022 elections
802(g)	LAUSD Anniversary of Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide that odd-numbered Board district elections are every four years from 2020, and even-numbered district elections are every four years from 2022
806 [new]	LAUSD Term of Office LAUSD Start Date of Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide that, in 2015 and 2017 only, candidates be elected for a 5½ year term to transition to the new election dates • Start term of office on second Monday in December under new election dates