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September 16, 2016

Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council
c/o Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

CERTIFICATION OF SUFFICIENCY OF AN ORDINANCE INITIATIVE PETITION: BUILDING MORATORIUM; RESTRICTIONS ON GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS; REQUIRED REVIEW OF GENERAL PLAN

Honorable Members:

On August 24, 2016, in accordance with Charter Section 451, an Initiative Petition entitled Building Moratorium; Restrictions on General Plan Amendments; Required Review of General Plan. Initiative Ordinance. containing 103,816 signatures was filed with the Office of the City Clerk. As provided in City of Los Angeles Election Code Section 711 (b), a random sampling of five percent (5%) or 5,191 signatures were verified to determine the sufficiency or insufficiency of the Initiative Petition.

Of the random sample of 5,191 signatures, 3,381 or more were required to be valid for the Initiative Petition to qualify as sufficient. Based on the examination of the signatures compared with the voter registration records maintained by the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder, a total of 3,400 valid signatures were identified. Thus, I have determined that the Initiative Petition is SUFFICIENT and I hereby present the attached Certification of Sufficiency to the City Council.

Charter Section 452 provides that the Council must take one of the following three actions within 20 days of the transmittal of the attached Certificate of Sufficiency to the City Council:

1. Adopt the proposed ordinance, without alteration; or

2. Call a special election to be held not earlier than 110 days nor more than 140 days after Council action on the petition to submit the proposed ordinance, without alteration, to a vote of the electors of the city; or

3. Determine to submit the proposed ordinance, without alteration, to a vote of the electors of the city at either the next regular city election to be held more than 110 days from the date of Council action on the petition or the next statewide election conducted by the County of Los Angeles to be held more than 110 days from the date of Council action on the petition.

The second option of Charter Section 452, ordering a stand-alone special election, is not recommended since it is by far the most expensive option (approximately $6 million). The city's regularly-scheduled Primary Nominating Election, which will be conducted on March 7, 2017, meets the requirements of Option 3 as it occurs more than 110 days from the date of Council action with no additional cost.

ELECTION COSTS

Option 1: Adopt the proposed ordinance, without alteration.

There would be no additional financial impact relative to election costs.

Option 2: Call a stand-alone special election (citywide) to be held not earlier than 110 days or more than 140 days after the Council's action to submit the ordinance to a vote.

This option would require a citywide special election to be held no earlier than January 24, 2017, and no later than February 23, 2017, assuming Council takes action on October 6, 2016. A stand-alone, citywide special election would cost approximately $6 million. These costs would include establishing polling sites for 1,600 voting precincts; recruiting, training and deploying 6,400 pollworkers; preparing, translating and distributing 1.9 million Sample Ballots/Voter Information Pamphlets, and other election support functions. This option may also entail possible voter fatigue due to City of Los Angeles voters being asked to vote in two elections within a month.

Option 3: Determine to submit the proposed ordinance, without alteration at the city's 2017 Primary Nominating Election to be held March 7, 2017.

If the City Council determines to submit the proposed ordinance to the electorate at the March 7, 2017, City Primary Nominating Election, there will be zero to minimal additional financial impact relative to election costs since there will be citywide races included on the ballot.

COST OF PROCESSING THE SIGNATURES

The City Clerk expects to absorb the cost of petition checking by re-allocating approximately $60,000 from salary savings.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council take one of the following two actions:

1. Adopt the ordinance presented by the Initiative Petition proponents, without alteration; or

2. Determine to submit the proposed ordinance, without alteration, to a vote of the electors of the city at the regularly-scheduled Primary Nominating Election scheduled for March 7, 2017.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact for adopting Recommendation 1 in this report. There is zero to minimal cost for adopting Recommendation 2 in this report, assuming there will be a citywide race or a moderate number of Council-sponsored measures on that ballot.

If, however, the City Council chooses to place this measure before the voters on a special election, the cost of that election is estimated to be $6 million.

Sincerely,

Holly L. Wolcott
City Clerk

Attachments

SH:JP:gp
EXE-054-16

Petition Statistics

9/15/2016 9:01:45AM
BUILDING MORATORIUM; RESTRICTIONS ON GENERAL PL Petition ID:14172
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Total Sigs Required	0
Total Sigs Submitted	103,816
Total Sample Size	5,192
Total Sigs Verified	4,444

		TOTAL CHALLENGED
ADD	DIFFERENT ADDRESS	
	Total	**355**
CAN	CANCELED	
	Total	**49**
FP	FATAL PENDING	
	Total	**50**
MADD	PO BOX/MAILING ADDRESS	
	Total	**3**
MAX	MAX NUMBER OF TIMES SIGNED	
	Total	**6**
MS	MISCELLANEOUS	
	Total	**17**
MSPET	MISSING SIG ON PETITION	
	Total	**1**
NADD	NO ADDRESS	
	Total	**4**
NR	NOT REGISTERED	
	Total	**381**
SIG	MISMATCH SIGNATURE	
	Total	**30**
WDIST	WRONG DISTRICT	
	Total	**147**
WREG	WRONG REG DATE	
	Total	**1**
TOTAL		**1,044**

TOTAL VALID : 3,400

LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK
PETITION STATISTICS REPORT

PETITION ID:	14172	REPORT RUN DATE:	9/15/16 9:02 am
PETITION DESCRIPTION:	BUILDING MORATORIUM: RESTRICTIONS ON GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS CITY OF LOS ANGELES		

Total Signatures Submitted	103,816
Total Sample Size	5,192 (5%)

Total Valid Signatures	3,400
Total Invalid Signatures	1,044
Total Processed	4,444
Total Not Processed	99,372
TOTAL	103,816

BREAKDOWN OF INVALID SIGNATURES

CHALLENGE DESCRIPTION	QTY
DIFFERENT ADDRESS	355
CANCELED	49
FATAL PENDING	50
PO BOX/MAILING ADDRESS	3
MAX NUMBER OF TIMES SIGNED	6
MISCELLANEOUS	17
MISSING SIG ON PETITION	1
NO ADDRESS	4
NOT REGISTERED	381
MISMATCH SIGNATURE	30
WRONG DISTRICT	147
WRONG REG DATE	1
TOTAL	1,044

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES)

CERTIFICATION OF SUFFICIENCY

ORDINANCE INITIATIVE PETITION: BUILDIING MORATORIUM; RESTRICTIONS ON GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS; REQUIRED REVIEW OF GENERAL PLAN.

I, HOLLY L. WOLCOTT, City Clerk of the City of Los Angeles, hereby certify to the Los Angeles City Council that I have verified the signatures submitted with the Initiative Petition for the above referenced initiative ordinance, utilizing the random sampling method provided for in Election Code Section 711 (b); and further certify that the Initiative Petition is **SUFFICIENT** and that the attached summary represents a true, correct, and complete summary validation of the Initiative Petition.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of the City of Los Angeles this 16th day of September, 2016.

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
CITY CLERK

BUILDING MOMRATORIUM; RESTRICITONS ON GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS INITIATIVE PETITION RANDOM SAMPLING COMPUTATIONS

ASSUMPTIONS: (A) 61,487 valid signatures are required*
(B) 103,816 total signatures submitted

Step #1 – Compute percentage of necessary valid signatures to signatures submitted:

$$\frac{61,487}{103,816} = 59.2\%$$

Step #2 – Draw at least a 5% random sample of signatures submitted:

5% of 103,816 = 5,191

Step #3 – Apply valid signature percentage (Step #1) to random sample (Step #2):

59.2% x 5,191 = 3,073

Step #4 – Compute 90 to 110% range of random sample valid signature amount (Step #3):

.9 x 3,073 = 2,766
1.1 x 3,073 = 3,381

*15% of the total number of votes cast for all candidates for the Office of Mayor at the election at which the Mayor was elected.