



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 21, 2014
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Byron Pope, City Clerk
Subject: Election Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation for the 2015 City of Beverly Hills Municipal Election Contribution Limit

Attachments:

1. 12-year Historical Look at Voluntary Spending Limit for Municipal Elections
2. Election Campaign Contribution Information

INTRODUCTION

The 2015 Election Ad Hoc Committee, composed of Councilmembers William W. Brien, MD and John A. Mirisch, met on Friday, October 10, 2014 to discuss the upcoming March 3, 2015 Election candidate campaign spending and contribution limits.

DISCUSSION

Voluntary Campaign Spending Limit

The current voluntary campaign spending limit is \$80,000. The Committee recommended that the voluntary spending limit remain at the current amount.

Contribution Limit

The current individual contribution is \$400 per contribution or entity and \$800 per couple for those candidates that accept the voluntary campaign spending limit of \$80,000. The Committee recommended that the individual contribution be increased from \$400 to \$450 per contribution or entity, and \$900 per couple for those candidates that accept the voluntary campaign spending limit of \$80,000. For candidates who agree to the voluntary spending limit of \$80,000, the City will pay the cost for printing, handling, translation and mailing of candidate statements.

The current individual contribution is \$125 per contributor or entity for those candidates that decline the voluntary campaign spending limit of \$80,000. The Committee recommended that this amount remain the same. In addition, the candidate will be responsible for the cost of printing, handling, translating and mailing the candidate's statement.

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RECOMMENDATION

This report is for information only. Unless directed otherwise, the below recommendation of the Ad Hoc will be incorporated for City Council formal approval and will be presented as follows:

1. A regular ordinance placed on the consent calendar (for introduction – first reading) at tonight's Council Regular Meeting;
2. The ordinance placed on the consent calendar (for adoption – second reading) on November 4, 2014;
3. The ordinance will become effective on December 4, 2014.

Byron Pope
Approved By

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'B' and 'P' in a stylized, cursive font.

Attachment 1



**12 Year Historical Look
at
Voluntary Spending Limit for Municipal Elections**

<u>Election Year</u>	<u>Number of seats</u>	<u>Voluntary Spending Limit</u>	<u>Per contribution (if accepting the limit)</u>	<u>Per contribution (if NOT accepting the limit)</u>
2003	2 City Council	\$50,000	\$250	\$100
2005	3 City Council, 1 Treasurer	\$50,000	\$250	\$100
2007	2 City Council	\$60,000	\$250	\$100
2009	3 City Council, 1 Treasurer	\$75,000	\$300	\$125
2011	2 City Council	\$75,000	\$400	\$125
2013	3 City Council, 1 Treasurer	\$80,000	\$400	\$125
2015	2 City Council	???	???	???

Attachment 2

Election Campaign Contribution Information

What nearby cities are doing?

Santa Monica –

\$325 per contribution / no spending limit cap

Culver City –

\$500 per contribution / no spending limit cap

West Hollywood –

\$500 per contribution / no spending limit cap

Pasadena –

No contribution cap / no spending limit cap