



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT
MEETING DATE: 2/2/2021
DEPARTMENT: City Manager

SUBJECT:

CONSIDERATION OF ADDING A COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION BALLOT MEASURE ON A STAND-ALONE ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 9, 2021

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Exercise City Council discretion.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On December 15, 2020, the City Council voted to join the Orange County Power Authority (“OCPA”) Joint Powers Authority (“JPA”). The City has until March 17, 2021 to provide the Board of Directors with advance written notice of withdrawal to opt out of the JPA without penalty. Since joining, the City Council is conducting its due diligence to ensure the JPA is a good fit for the City. At the January 19, 2021 City Council Meeting, Council Member Mark Tetteimer sought consensus to agendaize for discussion a possible future ballot initiative regarding Community Choice Aggregation (“CCA”). Minority consensus was given by Mayor Pro Tem Pequeno, and the City Council directed staff to place this item on tonight’s agenda for further discussion (Attachment).

Staff contacted the Orange County Registrar of Voters (“County”) for preliminary planning purposes to request estimated costs for a (1) stand-alone, and (2) mail ballot election. Estimated costs are based upon a projection of total jurisdictional participation and an average cost per voter. The County estimates costs for a stand-alone election could range between \$348,273 - \$382,957. Alternatively, the County estimates costs for a mail ballot election could range between \$216,191 - \$250,876.

For comparison purposes, a stand-alone election would still be conducted largely by all-mail ballot but with voting centers and drop boxes located in the City for those who wish to cast a vote in person. A true all-mail ballot election would only involve ballots sent in the mail or dropped off at a City box. No voting centers or other in-person voting alternatives would be offered. The stand-alone poll election may be the City’s only legal option.

Inasmuch as the City Council placed this item on the agenda for further consideration, any direction related to the potential continuation of adding a CCA Ballot Measure for this November is at its direction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact is dependent upon City Council direction.

ATTACHMENTS:

Minute Excerpt – January 19, 2021 City Council Meeting

Initiated By: Adrian Grijalva, Senior Management Analyst

Submitted By: Keith Neves, Assistant City Manager

Approved By: Debra Rose, City Manager