

January 29, 2008

Honorable Scott Haggerty, President
Board of Supervisors
Alameda County
1221 Oak Street, Suite 536
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Cost of Election Consolidated Services

Dear President Haggerty and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

The City of Albany is contemplating a special election to consolidate with the County for the June, 2008 ballot.

The City Clerk contacted the Registrar of Voters to obtain an estimate on the consolidation costs. The Registrar informed the City Clerk that an approximate cost to consolidate in June would be \$3 - \$5 per registered voter.

In June, 2006, the consolidated cost for the City of Albany was \$1.77 per registered voter. The City understands the reason for the increased cost is due to problems associated with the voting machines and the use of paper ballots, new security procedures, ballots that have to be sorted by precinct and the use of extra staff time to accommodate all the changes.

However, the City of Albany is very concerned about the costs and the fact that it is prohibiting many cities from having elections other than their regular scheduled elections.

The City of Albany would like to go on record as opposing the high costs for consolidated elections, and urges the Board of Supervisors to take a close look at this situation and to try and negotiate a cost that would not have such an impact on cities.

Sincerely,

ROBERT S. LIEBER
Mayor

Cc: Dave McDonald, Registrar

