

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: 07/21/08

Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Ballot arguments on City Charter Amendments and Tax Measures

REPORT BY: Beth Pollard, City Administrator

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Designate a Council subcommittee to write arguments on the proposed measures to be submitted to the voters at the November 4, 2008 election.

BACKGROUND

Before Council is Resolution No. 08-36, which requests consolidation with the Statewide General Election, gives notice of vacancies and submitting measures to the voters.

DISCUSSION

Pursuant to Section 9282 of the Election Code, the legislative body is given priority on filing an argument for or against a City measure. The City Attorney has reviewed this and to comply with the Brown Act suggests that the Council designate a subcommittee of one or two Council Members to write an argument for and/or against the measures

There may be a measure that is not endorsed by the entire City Council, and therefore, a process for selecting which Council Member would sign a particular argument is provided and avoids any potential conflict at the time of filing the argument.

If fewer than five Council Members sign the argument, delegate to the subcommittee the selection of third parties to co-sign the argument, for a total of five signers. If all five Council Members do not sign the argument, the subcommittee should be delegated the authority to select third parties to co-sign the argument for a total of five signers.

Council may designate more than one subcommittee, such as by designating different Council Members to write arguments on different measures.

In summary, the measures are as follows:

- Directly elected mayor
- Interim extension of commissioner terms beyond date of election
- Contract bidding procedure to be set by ordinance

- Council compensation
- Council meeting time
- Transfer tax increase
- Measure N/EMS cost of living increase

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None