



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Election Code Committee

STAFF

Delynn Coldiron, City Clerk
Rupa Venkatesh, Assistant City Manager
Carrie Daggett, City Attorney
Sara Arfman, Assistant City Attorney

SUBJECT

2024 Workplan and Election Updates.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to provide updates on the Committee's Work Plan and to enable discussion on Work Plan items. The purpose also includes providing updates on the current and coming elections.

At its September 11, 2024, meeting, the Committee confirmed the items listed on the Work Plan.

Code amendments related to campaign finance enforcement are scheduled for discussion at the October 21, 2024, meeting. Discussion is also planned on possible changes to campaign contribution limits.

For the December 10, 2024, meeting, staff will be prepared to discuss:

- Code changes related to contribution limits (if direction is given by the Committee to do so);
- Discussion on possible code changes that would eliminate write-in candidates;
- Discussion on possible code changes that would eliminate having petition circulators read a petition an entire petition if requested;
- Discussion on possible code changes related to redistricting; and
- Discussion on code changes that are needed based on any Charter changes that pass.

Additional code changes agreed to at the December meeting, together with a summary of items the Committee approved at the October meeting, will be reviewed at the January 27, 2024, ECC meeting. These items will then be prepared for Council consideration. If no work session is needed, the items could be brought forward for first reading as early as February 18, followed by second reading on March 4, 2025. An earlier meeting in January could be scheduled if the Committee desires to do so.

Additional items remaining on the Committee's Work Plan include:

1. Education for Ranked Choice Voting and Sign Code requirements
2. Additional Charter Amendments
 - a. Article II – Vacancies
 - b. Article IV – General Provisions

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3. Other Topics: “Bike Rack” Items:
 - a. Oversight Committee; and
 - b. Public Financing of Campaigns

Staff will provide updates on remaining items as information is available. For the October meeting, staff will be prepared to discuss the field trip staff took to the City of Boulder related to Ranked Choice Voting and will be prepared to bring forward more detailed information on a related communications and outreach plan in January.

Discussion on possible additional Charter amendments can begin in February if the Committee desires to pursue these items.

Election Update

Here’s what is happening related to the current election:

- Mail ballot packages are out to voters
- We are responding to questions as they come but haven’t had many
- Annual reports for anyone with open campaigns are due November 1st; reminders have been sent
- No committees have filed related to ballot issue or questions
- No independent expenditure reports have been filed
- Ballots are due back by 7:00 p.m. on November 5th
- The last day for the County to receive military/overseas ballots and for people to correct signature deficiencies is November 13
- The last day for verification and counting of all ballots is November 15
- The deadline for the County to certify election results is November 27

Staff is working on updating Candidate Guidelines and other materials for the 2025 election. We are hoping to schedule a Candidate Information Session during Q1 which will include some information about the new ranked choice voting process.

GENERAL DIRECTION SOUGHT AND SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

1. Does this meet the Committee’s expectations regarding these items?
2. Are there any additional items the Committee is interested in pursuing for this election term?

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Presentation