



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 06/02/2026

ITEM NO: 3

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DATE: June 2, 2026  
TO: Mayor and Town Council  
FROM: Chris Constantin, Town Manager  
SUBJECT: **Adopt a Resolution Calling the November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election for Three Town Council Members in the Town of Los Gatos, Requesting Consolidation with the Statewide General Election and Specified Election Services from the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, and Adopting Regulations Pertaining to Candidate Filing Fees, Candidate Statements, and Tie Vote Procedures**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt a resolution calling for the General Municipal Election to be held on November 3, 2026, in the Town of Los Gatos for the election of three Town Council Members to be held; requesting the consolidation of election with the Statewide General Election,; requesting the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors render specified services to the Town: adopting regulations pertaining to candidate filing fees and candidate statements; and providing procedures for resolving a tie vote.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The estimated cost from the Registrar of Voters (ROV) for the election of three (3) Council seats, not including the cost of candidate statements, is approximately \$104,051 and the funding is included in the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 Operating Budget. This amount is an estimate based on the current fee schedule and available data from the Registrar of Voters Office and is subject to change upon final billing.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY:**

This item does not directly address a Strategic Priority; however, it aligns with the Core Goal of Good Governance.

**PREPARED BY:** Wendy Wood  
Town Clerk

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Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Administrative Services Director

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SUBJECT: Adopt a Resolution Calling the November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election for Three Town Council Members, and Requesting Consolidation and Election Services from the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors

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BACKGROUND:

California Elections Code Section 10002 allows the governing body of any city or town to request the Board of Supervisors permit the County Elections Official to render election services relating to the conduct of a municipal election, including services such as the provision of election supplies, production of voter pamphlets, canvassing the election results, and other election-related activities. By consolidating election services with the County Registrar of Voters Office, the Town realizes significant cost savings.

DISCUSSION:

The General Municipal Election of the Town of Los Gatos will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, for the purpose of filling three Council Member seats. To conduct the election, the Town Council must adopt a resolution calling for the General Municipal Election to fulfill certain legal requirements. The Resolution calls for the holding of the election, requests consolidation with the Statewide General Election, establishes guidelines and costs associated with candidate statements, and provides the process to resolve a tie vote.

Each elected Council Member will serve a four-year term. Additionally, consistent with Municipal Code Section 2.20.040 relating to Town Council term limits, Council Members Mary Badame, Rob Moore, and Rob Rennie will be eligible to run for an additional term.

The filing period for Town Council candidates in the November 3, 2026, General Election begins Monday, July 13, 2026, and ends at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7, 2026. Pursuant to Elections Code Section 10225, if an incumbent for a specific office fails to file Nomination Papers by the close of business on August 7, 2026, the filing period will be extended five (5) calendar days for that specific office for non-incumbents only. The extended filing period would close on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. The Town Clerk will meet with potential candidates by appointment only during regular business hours during the filing period.

The Resolution calling for the General Municipal Election sets the maximum word count for candidate statements, which may be capped at either 200 or 400 words. Historically, the Town of Los Gatos has allowed for up to 200 words in candidate statements. The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters (ROV) estimates the cost of publishing a 200-word candidate statement in the Voter Information Guide to be approximately \$3,500. This cost is paid only by candidates who voluntarily choose to publish a candidate statement and represents the costs associated with printing, producing, and mailing the statement. Candidates who elect to publish a statement are responsible for paying the estimated cost at the time the nomination papers are submitted. Separately, pursuant to Elections Code Section 10228 and Town Code Section 2.30.011, the Town requires a mandatory \$25 filing fee at the time Nomination Papers are filed.

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California Elections Code Section 15651 allows the City Council to choose either to resolve a tie vote by lot or by requiring a runoff election to be held. Consistent with the process used in previous years, the attached Resolution has been drafted to reflect that a tie vote be resolved by lot.

CONCLUSION:

Adoption of the attached Resolution will allow the Town to formally call the November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election and request consolidation with the Statewide General Election and election services from the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters. The Resolution also outlines candidate statements requirements, filing fees, and the process for resolving a tie vote.

COORDINATION:

The preparation of this report was coordinated with the Town Manager's Office and the Town Attorney.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

Attachments:

1. Draft Resolution