



CITY OF ORLAND STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: December 16, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council

FROM: Joe Goodman, City Manager

SUBJECT: **Authorization to Retain Demographer for City Council District Voting**
(Discussion/Action)

Purpose

The purpose of this item is to obtain City Council authorization to engage a demographer to perform the work required to transition the City of Orland from at-large voting to district-based voting for City Council elections. The estimated cost for this work is approximately \$20,000.00 – 30,000.00.

Background

At the previous City Council meeting, the Council directed staff to proceed with the transition to district-based voting.

Discussion

Following Council direction, staff contacted a demographer recommended by the City Attorney. This firm is one of the only providers of this service in the region. Their preliminary cost estimate is approximately \$20,000.00 – 30,000.00, in line with what was originally anticipated.

According to the City Attorney, the firm can meet all required deadlines to ensure the districting process is completed by May 2026, which is six months prior to the November 2026 election. Staff recommends beginning the work as soon as possible in order to meet the strict statutory and procedural timelines associated with the transition to district-based elections.

Fiscal Impact

Staff has obtained a cost estimate of approximately \$20,000.00 – 30,000.00 for the required work. A formal proposal is forthcoming; however, total costs are not expected to exceed \$30,000.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council:

- Authorize staff to proceed with engaging the demographer in order to meet the required timeline for implementing district-based voting for the November 2026 election.