



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
County Counsel



Date: March 23, 2015
Board Meeting Date: March 31, 2015
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: John C. Beiers, County Counsel

Subject: Approval of requests by four local entities to change from odd- to even-number year elections for governing board members

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution approving requests by the Coastside Fire Protection District, Midcoast Community Council, Granada Community Services District, and Montara Water And Sanitary District to change the election dates for members of their respective governing bodies to the date of the General Statewide Election occurring in even-numbered years.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to Section 10404 of the Elections Code ("Section 10404"), any special district that elects members of its governing board in November of odd-numbered years may, by resolution, require that its election of governing board members be held instead on the same day as the statewide general election in November of even-numbered years. Such resolutions must be submitted to the Board of Supervisors, and the Board of Supervisors must approve each resolution requesting consolidation with even-numbered year elections unless it finds that the ballot style, voting equipment, or computer capacity is such that additional elections or materials cannot be handled.

DISCUSSION:

Within the last sixty days, the Board of Supervisors has received notice from four local entities of requests to change their respective elections to even-numbered years. Specifically, the following entities have submitted such requests: the Coastside Fire Protection District (the "CFPD") (Resolution 2015-02); the Midcoast Community Council (the "MCC") (Resolution 2015 – 1); the Granada Community Services District (the "GCSD") (Resolution 2015-001); and the Montara Water and Sanitary District (the "MWSD") (Resolution 1586). This Board received notice of each of the four requests in a timely manner and subsequently provided notice to all special districts located in the

County of the requests and of the opportunity to provide input on the effect of the requested consolidation.

Also pursuant to Section 10404(d), the San Mateo County Chief Elections Officer prepared separate reports analyzing the impact of each of these proposed election changes, and copies of those reports are attached to this memo.

This Board is required to approve the resolutions by these agencies requesting the changes of election dates for members of their respective governing bodies to the general statewide election occurring in even-numbered years unless it finds that the ballot style, voting equipment, or computer capacity is such that additional elections or materials cannot be handled. Nothing in the materials submitted by the Chief Elections Officer indicates that the ballot style, voting equipment, or computer capacity is such that the change cannot be accommodated.

The Resolution has been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

Approval of this resolution contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Collaborative Community by helping local entities manage election procedures for their governing boards in the manner they feel best meets their goals and needs, which in turn can help promote representative democracy.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no anticipated fiscal impact on the County as a result of the requested changes because these entities each pay their own respective election costs regardless of whether their elections occur in odd-numbered or even-numbered years.