



City Council Chamber
390 Towne Centre Drive
Lathrop, California



**CITY OF LATHROP
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AND STUDY SESSION
TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2018
5:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL
390 Towne Centre Drive
Lathrop, CA 95330**

AGENDA

1. PRELIMINARY

- 1.1 CALL TO ORDER
- 1.2 ROLL CALL

2. ACTION ITEM

- 2.1 DISTRICT BASED ELECTIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS
Adopt Resolution of Intention to Transition from At-Large Elections to District Based Elections for City Council Elections for the 2022 General Municipal Election, After Receiving Results of the 2020 U.S. Census

3. STUDY SESSION ITEM

- 3.1 DISCUSSION REGARDING LATHROP POLICE SERVICE OPTIONS
Council to Receive Presentation and Discuss Information Related to the City of Lathrop Police Service Options

4. ADJOURNMENT



Teresa Vargas, CMC
City Clerk

This meeting was called by a majority of the City Council per Government Code Section 54956.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
MAY 29, 2018 CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING****ITEM: DISTRICT BASED ELECTIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS****RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution of Intention to Transition from At-Large Elections to District Based Elections for City Council Elections for the 2022 General Municipal Election, After Receiving Results of the 2020 U.S. Census**

SUMMARY:

The California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) (E.C. §14025-14032) took effect January 1, 2003. The CVRA prohibits public agencies from applying an at-large election method if it impairs the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of its choice or its ability to influence the outcome of an election (E.C. §14027).

The CVRA defines an at-large method as one in which the voters of the entire City elect all the members of the City Council. Lathrop currently uses an at-large election method of voting.

According to the League of California Cities, approximately 88 cities with At-Large Election Systems have made the change to by-district elections.

Cities with at-large election methods have the following options:

- 1) Continue with the current at-large election system, where voters of the entire City elect all members to the City Council.
- 2) Staff recommends adoption of a resolution stating the Council's intention to transition to district-based elections. For example, Council may state its intention to transition the 2022 general municipal election to district based elections, after receiving results of the 2020 U.S. Census. This would allow for full public participation in the process.

If Council chooses to adopt the attached resolution (Option 2), staff would bring back an item at a future Council Meeting to consider future steps, community outreach proposals, and a professional consultant agreement with a professional demographer and government districting consultant.

MAY 29, 2018 CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

CONSIDER TRANSITIONING TO DISTRICT BASED ELECTIONS EFFECTIVE THE 2022 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION, AFTER RECEIVING RESULTS OF THE 2020 U.S. CENSUS

BACKGROUND:

In 2002, the Legislature enacted SB 976, the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) (E.C. § 14025-14032), which took effect January 1, 2003. The CVRA prohibits public agencies from imposing or applying an at-large election method if it impairs the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of its choice or its ability to influence the outcome of an election (Elec. Code §14027).

A protected class is defined by the CVRA as "a class of voters who are members of a race, color, or language minority group, as this class is referenced and defined in the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965. The CVRA defines an at-large method of election to include the election method used by the City of Lathrop, in which the voters of the entire City elect all the members of the City Council.

According to the League of California Cities, approximately 88 cities with At-Large Election Systems have made the change to by-district elections and two more, the City of Goleta and the City of Carpinteria, agreed to make the change for 2022.

Cities with at-large election methods can have the following options:

- 1) Continue with the current at-large election system, where voters of the entire City elect all members to the City Council.
- 2) Staff recommends adoption of a resolution stating the Council's intention to transition to district-based elections for the 2022 general municipal election, after receiving results of the 2020 U.S. Census. This will allow for full public participation in the process.

Below are the details associated with each option:

Option 1

Continue with the current at-large election system, where voters of the entire City elect all members to the City Council.

This option would postpone the potential decision to transition to district-based elections to an unidentified time in the future.

Option 2

Staff recommends adoption of the attached resolution stating the Council's intention to transition to district-based elections for the 2022 general municipal election, after receiving results of the 2020 U.S. Census. This will allow for full public participation in the process. (Attachment A)

MAY 29, 2018 CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

CONSIDER TRANSITIONING TO DISTRICT BASED ELECTIONS EFFECTIVE THE 2022 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION, AFTER RECEIVING RESULTS OF THE 2020 U.S. CENSUS

This option would implement a transition to district-based elections following the next federal Census in 2020. This would allow districts to be designated using public input and updated census information.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

To allow the City to transition to district bases elections after receiving results of the 2020 U.S. Census. This would allow for full public participation in the process.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None at this time. However, if Council approves Option 2, staff will bring back an item at a future meeting to consider future steps, community outreach proposals, and a professional consultant agreement with professional demographer and government districting consultant to prepare necessary documentation and processes to transition to district based elections.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Resolution of Intention to Transition from At-Large Elections to District-Based Elections for the November 2022 General Municipal Election, After Receiving Results of the 2020 U.S. Census.

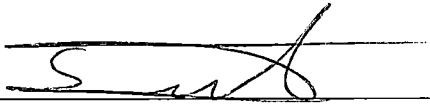
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THE 2020 U.S. CENSUS

APPROVALS:



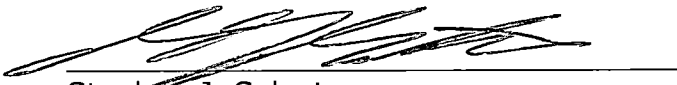
Teresa Vargas
City Clerk

5/24/18
Date



Salvador Navarrete
City Attorney

5-24-18
Date



Stephen J. Salvatore
City Manager

5-24-18
Date

RESOLUTION NO. 18-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LATHROP DECLARING THE COUNCIL'S INTENTION TO TRANSITION FROM AT-LARGE ELECTIONS TO DISTRICT BASED ELECTIONS FOR THE NOVEMBER 2022 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION, AFTER RECEIVING RESULTS OF THE 2020 U.S. CENSUS

WHEREAS, the City of Lathrop is a general law city and currently uses an at-large election system; and

WHEREAS, the City conducts and holds all general municipal elections to fill public offices as provided by provisions of the laws of the State of California relating to general law cities; and

WHEREAS, the City consolidates all general municipal elections with the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Joaquin, according to Statewide General Election held on the date pursuant to § 10403 of the Elections Code; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, the Legislature enacted SB 976, the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) (E.C. § 14025-14032), which took effect January 1, 2003; and

WHEREAS, the CVRA prohibits public agencies from imposing or applying an at-large election method that impairs the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of its choice or its ability to influence the outcome of an election (Elec. Code §14027); and

WHEREAS, a protected class is defined by the CVRA as "a class of voters who are members of a race, color, or language minority group, as this class is referenced and defined in the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965; and

WHEREAS, the CVRA defines an at-large method of election to include the election method used by the City of Lathrop, in which the voters of the entire City elect all the members of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to transition to district-based elections in 2022 to incorporate public input and account for the results of the 2020 United States Census;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Lathrop hereby approves that:

1. It is the City of Lathrop City Council's intention to consider an ordinance to change to a district-based election system for use in the City's General Municipal Elections following release of the results of the 2020 United States Census, for use in the City's General Municipal Election in November 2022; and

2. At the time of the 2020 Census data becomes available, the City Council will begin the transition to district-based elections according to the requirements of the California Elections Code and any other applicable legal authority.

The foregoing resolution was passed and adopted this 29th day of May, 2018, by the following vote of the City Council, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Sonny Dhaliwal, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teresa Vargas, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Salvador Navarrete, City Attorney

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