



## City of Phoenix

February 15, 2018

Ed Zuercher  
City Manager  
200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Dear Mr. Zuercher:

The City of Phoenix values transparency in our political system. We have instituted many reforms including disclosure requirements and putting contributions online. We have strict requirements for individual donors. The amount of independent expenditures in local and national elections has only grown in recent years. We believe now is the time to modernize our rules to require disclosure of the sources of independent expenditures.

Luckily, we are seeing municipalities lead the way to give voters back their voice. The saying goes that sunlight is the best disinfectant, and if we act now we can shine a light on the dark and dirty money that tries to buy our elections.

That is why we respectfully ask that you place an item on the next available Formal Agenda to develop language to refer to the voters an amendment to the City Charter at the November 2018 general election. This amendment would create a requirement for the disclosure of original and intermediary sources of major contributions used to influence city elections. Further, it should require the City Council to adopt by ordinance all the necessary regulations for the establishment of and compliance with these disclosure requirements. The intent of this measure would be to improve transparency and maintain the public trust in our city's electoral process.

We believe that now is the time to push back, clean up our elections and restore the voice of voters. We must empower our electorate to make informed decisions by letting them know who is really behind the messages that they are hearing.

Sincerely,

Kate Gallego,  
Councilwoman - District 8

Greg Stanton,  
Mayor

Debra Stark,  
Councilwoman - District 3