



## City of Phoenix

**To:** Toni Maccarone  
Acting Deputy City Manager

**Date:** May 1, 2018

**From:** Cris Meyer  
City Clerk *CW*

**Subject:** ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, ITEM 42 - FORM OF THE BALLOT ORDINANCE

The City Clerk Department received feedback from the Maricopa County Recorder's Office on Monday, April 30, about the City of Phoenix's proposed Form of the Ballot for the Aug. 28, 2018 election, which Maricopa County will be conducting for the City.

The County informed the City there may not be sufficient space on the ballot for all of the proposed measures using the usual descriptive title form of ballot format for City elections, as appears on pages 116-120 of the Agenda for the May 2, 2018 Formal meeting. In the event that there is not adequate space on the ballot for the items to appear in this format, it will be necessary to prioritize the measures. If all of the measures will not fit, the lower priority items would be deferred to the Nov. 6, 2018 County election.

Staff proposes the following priority order for measures to appear on the Aug. 28, 2018 County ballot.

- Proposition 101 – Dates for Regular City Candidate Elections
- Proposition 102 – Power of the City Council to Remove Elective Office Holders
- Proposition 103 – Southwest Gas Franchise Agreement
- Proposition 104 – Referral of Charter Amendments
- Proposition 105 – Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials
- Proposition 106 – Random Sample Verification for Initiative and Referendum

At the present time, the County believes that at least the three highest priority propositions will fit on the ballot, although some of the items may appear on the back of the ballot. However, if these high priority items will not fit, it would become necessary to also use the short "tag line" format for the ballot for each measure, comprised of about 50 words or less. If necessary to use the "tag line" wording for the ballot, only the "question" part of the descriptive title format for each item would be printed on the ballot, as follows.

### **PROPOSITION 101 - DATES FOR REGULAR CITY CANDIDATE ELECTIONS**

**Shall Chapter III, Section 6 and Chapter XIII, Sections 1, 3 and 6 of the Charter of the City of Phoenix be amended as described to change the dates for regular city candidate elections from the fall of odd-numbered years to November of even-**

numbered years with any runoff election to be held the following March?

**PROPOSITION 102 - POWER OF CITY COUNCIL TO REMOVE ELECTIVE OFFICE HOLDERS**

Shall Chapter XVII of the Charter of the City of Phoenix be amended as described to permit removal of a council member for a violation of the City of Phoenix ethics, gift, conflict of interest, or non-discrimination and anti-harassment policies?

**PROPOSITION 103 – SOUTHWEST GAS FRANCHISE AGREEMENT**

Shall the Franchise Agreement proposed for Southwest Gas Corporation to begin on January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2043 be granted?

**PROPOSITION 104 – REFERRAL OF CHARTER AMENDMENTS**

Shall Chapter XXII, Section 3 of the Charter of the City of Phoenix be amended as described to eliminate the unanimous vote requirement of the City Council to refer Charter amendments to the ballot by descriptive title?

**PROPOSITION 105 - CITIZENS' COMMISSION ON SALARIES FOR ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS**

Shall Chapter III, Section 12 of the Charter of the City of Phoenix be amended as described to change the term of the Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials from odd to even years to align with even-year elections and change their appointment from every two years to every four years to align with mayoral elections?

**PROPOSITION 106 - RANDOM SAMPLE VERIFICATION FOR INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM**

Shall Chapters XV and XVI of the Charter of the City of Phoenix be amended as described to authorize verification of all initiative and referendum petitions by a random sample of 20 percent of all petition signatures?

Based on feedback from the County, staff is confident Propositions 101-103 will fit on the ballot. Those items that do not fit on the August ballot will be moved to the Nov. 6 ballot, with the Election Funding Disclosure ("dark money") item being proposed as the first ballot measure for the Nov. 6, 2018 election, also to be conducted by the County.

The full descriptive title of the measures will be provided to all voters with the ballot in a separate "Full Text Insert" pamphlet from the County. This pamphlet will be included in the mail ballot packet for all mail ballots, and will be available at voting locations.

As with all City elections, the full descriptive title of the measures will also be provided to voters in the publicity pamphlet mailed by the City of Phoenix to all registered voter households. In addition, this pamphlet will contain the full text of the actual proposed Charter amendment, indicating new and deleted text, as well as any arguments filed supporting or opposing each proposition.

These are staff's recommendations for City Council consideration, discussion and action.