



Declaring Results for the Referendum Petition Against Ordinance No. 4072

City Council Meeting
January 10, 2017

Daisy Gomez
City Clerk

ROV DETERMINATION

- Sonoma County Registrar of Voters has verified the signatures from the referendum petition against the records of registration and has certified the results.
- Findings were as follows:
 - Proponents filed 12,524 signatures.
 - Petition required 8,485 valid signatures.
 - ROV determined 9,648 valid signatures.
 - ROV determined 2,876 invalid signatures, which included 142 withdrawal requests.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

- 1) By ordinance, repeal challenged portions of the Ordinance; or
- 2) Submit the challenged portions of the ordinance to the voters

ELECTION DATES

- If the Ordinance is to be submitted to the voters, staff recommends that the Council call a special election on June 6, 2017 to address this matter.
- First, submitting the matter to the voters on June 6, 2017 will bring certainty to this issue at the earliest possible date for both the community and staff.
- Second, based on the cost estimates provided by the ROV, should the Council ultimately decide to submit the Cannabis Industry Tax to the voters on June 6, 2017, the City would avoid significant elections costs by placing a second City measure on the same ballot rather than submitting the measures to the voters at separate elections.

COST ESTIMATES

- The cost to the City of placing one City measure on a Special Election ballot is approximately \$403,785.
- The cost to the City of placing two City measures on the same Special Election ballot is approximately \$493,515.
- The cost to the City of adding a City measure to the November 6, 2018 Regular Election ballot is approximately \$134,595.
- If the Council chooses to submit the Ordinance to the voters rather than repeal it, staff recommends that the Council direct staff to return to the Council with the appropriate resolution to call the election on the particular election date selected by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended by the City Clerk that the Council, (1) by motion, accept the City Clerk's Certificate of Sufficiency, based on the determination of the Sonoma County Registrar of Voters, for the referendum petition challenging portions of Ordinance No. 4072; and (2) either (a) introduce an ordinance repealing the portions of Ordinance No. 4072 challenged by the Petition, or (b) direct staff to bring back to Council an appropriate resolution to submit the challenged portions of Ordinance No. 4072 to the voters at a Special Election to be held on June 6, 2017.

QUESTIONS ?