

CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON JUNE 6, 2017 AT WHICH TIME THE PORTIONS OF ORDINANCE NO. 4072 THAT ADD CHAPTER 6-90 TO THE SANTA ROSA MUNICIPAL CODE, SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA, AND RELATED ACTIONS

City Council Meeting March 7, 2017

Teresa Stricker, Interim City Attorney

BACKGROUND

On September 26, 2016, a timely Referendum Petition was filed with the City Clerk challenging portions of Ordinance No. 4072, establishing rent stabilization, eviction control, and other residential tenant protections in Santa Rosa. The Petition challenged all provisions of the Ordinance except the provision of the Ordinance that repealed both the 90-day moratorium on rent increases (which took effect on July 7, 2016) and the Just Cause Eviction Ordinance (which took effect on September 16, 2016). Both of those earlier ordinances have now been repealed.

BACKGROUND

- On September 26, 2016, the City Clerk submitted the Petition to the Sonoma County Registrar of Voters Office (ROV) for a prima facie review, signature verification, and final count.
- On December 21, 2016, the ROV submitted to the City Clerk its determination that the Petition contained a sufficient number of signatures of qualified voters.

BACKGROUND

- On December 23, 2016, the City Clerk certified to the City Council that the petition had a sufficient number of signatures to qualify for the ballot.
- On January 10, 2017, the City Council accepted that certification, and directed 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.
- The attached resolution will accomplish this purpose.

BALLOT QUESTION

City of Santa Rosa Rent Stabilization

Shall those provisions of Ordinance No. 4072 adopted by the Santa Rosa City Council that (1) establish rent control for certain residential rental properties in the City with three or more residential units but only as to units that received a Certificate of Occupancy before February 1995, (2) prohibit landlords from evicting tenants of such properties except for certain specified reasons, and (3) provide other protections to such tenants, be approved?

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Interim City Attorney the Council adopt a resolution (1) ordering a special election to be held on June 6, 2017 at which time the portions of Ordinance No. 4072 that add Chapter 6-90 to the Santa Rosa Municipal Code, concerning, as to certain residential rental units in the city, rent stabilization, limitations on the termination of tenancies and the payment of relocation

RECOMMENDATION

tenancies and the payment of relocation assistance, and other tenant protections shall be submitted to the voters; (2) approving ballot language; (3) permitting the filing of ballot arguments; and (4) directing the City Attorney to provide an impartial analysis.

QUESTIONS?