

ORDINANCE NO. 1033

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA, MOVING THE DATE OF THE CITY'S GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION FROM THE SECOND TUESDAY IN APRIL OF EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS TO THE FIRST TUESDAY AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY IN JUNE OR SUCH OTHER MONTH AS THE STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION MAY BE HELD PER STATE LAW OF EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS BEGINNING IN 2022 AND AMENDING SECTION 2.040.020 OF THE LANCASTER MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO THE SELECTION OF THE VICE MAYOR

WHEREAS, the City's General Municipal Elections are currently held on the second Tuesday in April of even-numbered years; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 415 (SB 415) "Voter Participation" prohibits political subdivisions (including local governments), beginning January 1, 2018, from holding an election on any date other than a statewide election date if doing so has resulted in voter turnout being at least 25% below the average turnout in that political subdivision in the previous four statewide general elections, except as specified; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with SB 415, the City has determined that it must adopt a transition plan to consolidate its General Municipal Elections with a statewide election date to occur not later than November 8, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Sections 1301 and 10403.5 of the California Elections Code, authorize the City Council to change its General Municipal Election to coincide with the date of a statewide election; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to change its General Municipal Election to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June or such other month as the Statewide Direct Primary Election may be held per state law of even-numbered years beginning in 2022; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 10403.5(b) of the California Elections Code, and in order to accomplish the change in election date, the terms of all incumbent City Council Members shall be either increased or decreased by the number of months necessary to correspond to the month in which the Statewide Direct Primary Election is held; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.04.020 of the Lancaster Municipal Code currently states, "At the first meeting in April of every year, the mayor shall appoint one council member as vice mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the city council. The vice mayor shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor and may be removed from the appointed position at the discretion of the mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the city council. All vacancies for the position of vice mayor shall be filled in accordance with the appointment procedure set forth in this chapter."

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Pursuant to Sections 1301 and 10403.5 of the California Elections Code, the General Municipal Election in the City of Lancaster is moved from the second Tuesday in April of even-numbered years to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June or such other month as the Statewide Direct Primary Election may be held per state law of even-numbered beginning in 2022.

Section 2. Pursuant to Section 1301 of the California Elections Code, the City of Lancaster hereby requests the County of Los Angeles (“the County”) to approve consolidation of the City’s April 2022 General Municipal Election with the Statewide Direct Primary Election conducted by the County in 2022 and each even-numbered year thereafter.

Section 3. Pursuant to Section 10403.5(b) of the California Elections Code, and due to the change of election date those City Council Members of the City of Lancaster whose terms of office would have, prior to the adoption of this Ordinance, expired following the April 2022 General Municipal Election shall, instead, terminate their offices upon certification of the results and administration of the oaths of office after the Statewide Direct Primary Election held in 2022.

Section 4. Pursuant to Sections 1301(b)(1) and 10403.5(a)(1) of the California Elections Code, this Ordinance shall not become operative until approved by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors.

Section 5. Pursuant to Section 10403.5(e) of the California Elections Code, within 30 days after the Ordinance becomes operative, the City Elections Official shall cause a notice to be mailed to all registered voters, within the City of Lancaster, informing the voters of the change in the election date and the changed terms of the elected City Council Members.

Section 6. The adoption of this Ordinance shall cancel the April 2022 General Municipal Election and set the next Municipal Election of the City of Lancaster to be held at the same time as the Statewide Direct Primary Election in 2022, and each election thereafter, shall be in consolidation with the County of Los Angeles Statewide Direct Primary Election of even-numbered years.

Section 7. Section 2.04.020 of Chapter 2.04 (“City Council”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended to read “At the first regular meeting following the presentation of the canvass of returns, the mayor shall appoint one council member as vice mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the city council. The vice mayor shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor and may be removed from the appointed position at the discretion of the mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the city council. All vacancies for the position of vice mayor shall be filled in accordance with the appointment procedure set forth in this chapter.”

Section 8. The City Clerk shall forward a copy of this Ordinance to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors with a request that it be approved pursuant to Sections 1301 and 10403.5 of the California Elections Code.

Section 9. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this Ordinance, and will see that it is published and posted in the manner required by law.

I, Britt Avrit, MMC, City Clerk of the City of Lancaster, do hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was regularly introduced and placed upon its first reading on the 12th day of September, 2017, and placed upon its second reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 26th day of September, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

BRITT AVRIT, MMC
City Clerk
City of Lancaster

R. REX PARRIS
Mayor
City of Lancaster

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) ss
CITY OF LANCASTER)

CERTIFICATION OF ORDINANCE
CITY COUNCIL

I, _____, _____ City of Lancaster, California, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original Ordinance No. 1033, for which the original is on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, on this _____ day of _____, _____.

(seal)