



Kriss Worthington

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CONSENT CALENDAR
November 27, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: Write a letter to the Alameda County Registrar Allowing voters to rank above three ranked choice ratings

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council write a letter to the Alameda County Registrar of Voters indicating that Berkeley is interested in allowing voters to rank above three ranked choice ratings.

BACKGROUND:

The current ranked choice voting system within Berkeley allows voters to vote and rank for their top three candidates. The Registrar of Voters has agreed to extend the algorithm for additional rounds until there are only two candidates remaining, which will increase transparency and plurality in the ranked choice voting process.

It has also recently come to the attention of the City Council, that the voting equipment may be being updated. Attached is a draft letter indicating that (1) Berkeley is interested in allowing voters to rank above three ranked choice ratings, and (2) that Berkeley is interested in knowing the additional or estimated cost for this improvement, and that (3) if it will be possible to implement the equipment in time in the November 2020 election.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Minimal.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY:

Consistent with Berkeley's Environmental Sustainability Goals and no negative impact.

CONTACT PERSON:

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Attachment:

1. Letter to Alameda County Registrar of Voters

Dear Alameda County Registrar of Voters

It has recently come to the attention of the City Council, that the voting equipment may be being updated. Berkeley is interested in allowing voters to rank above three ranked choice ratings. Berkeley is also interested in knowing the additional or estimated cost for implementing this improvement. Additionally, Berkeley inquires whether the equipment could be implemented in time in the November 2020 election.

Sincerely,
Berkeley City Council