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2016 MAY 25 AM 9:28
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
ASSESSMENT
Milton E. Foster III
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May 19, 2016

VIA U.S. MAIL AND
FACSIMILE TO: (213) 217-4979

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

34 July 5, 2016

Lori Glasgow
LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Patrick Ogawa
Acting Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Agenda
500 W. Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dean C. Logan
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
Los Angeles County Registrar-
Recorder/County Clerk
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, California 90650

Re: Submission of Newhall School District Board Request for Consolidation to Even Year Elections

Dear County Officials:

Our office represents the Newhall School District ("District"). On behalf of the District, we hereby submit to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, with a copy to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, this correspondence and the enclosed resolution, Resolution # 15/16-29. The aforementioned documents will constitute the District's request to consolidate to even years for elections of Governing Board members, commencing in 2018.

Background – Increasing Voter Participation and Compliance with CVRA

Over the past few years, the District has been evaluating options to increase voter participation and to reduce potential exposure to civil suits, pursuant to the California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA"). As part of these efforts, approximately three years ago, March 2013, the District submitted a prior request to convert to even year elections. The District's request was denied at that time.

In the spring of 2015, following community outreach and public hearings, the District's Governing Board adopted a resolution on May 5, 2015 to approve the District's transition to by-trustee area election and establish voting trustee areas to ensure compliance with CVRA. On

Patrick Ogawa
Dean C. Logan
May 19, 2016
Page 2

May 19, 2015, the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization approved of the District's transition to by-trustee area elections. The first election under the by-trustee election system was held this past November 2015. Despite the transition to by-trustee areas, the District continued to experience low voter turnout for this past election.

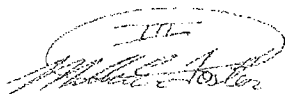
Request for Consolidation to Even Years

Armed with the recent election turnout, the District sought to further increase the voter turnout and participation within its community, in recognition and furtherance of the principles of CVRA. In moving towards this goal, the District again examined the issue of consolidating to even year election. The District was presented with information indicating that voter turnout, within the District, increases significantly during statewide elections, which are held in even years. Upon presentation and review of this information, the District investigated consolidation as an option to increase voter turnout. The District was informed that the Board of Supervisors has recently changed its long-standing policy of denial of such requests. The Board now considers consolidation requests on a case-by-case basis, and further, has been regularly approving such requests, absent some extraordinary circumstance.

In response to being provided this information, the Governing Board, on May 17, 2016, adopted the enclosed resolution seeking to consolidate to even year elections. The Board's stated purpose and goal was to enhance voter participation, while also recognizing a potential cost savings.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, and pursuant to the enclosed resolution, the District respectfully requests that the Board of Supervisors approve the consolidation to even year elections, to commence with the November 2018 election.

Sincerely,



Milton E. Foster III

Enclosures: Board Resolution # 15/16-29 of Newhall School District

Resolution #15/16-29
A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Newhall School District
Approving the Rescheduling of Governing Board Member Elections
From Odd to Even Year Elections Commencing with the
2018 Governing Board Election

WHEREAS, the current date for election of Governing Board members ("Board" of the Newhall School District ("District")) is every two (2) years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd years (e.g., November 2017) (Education Code section 5000 and Elections Code section 1302(a));

WHEREAS, statewide general elections are held in California only in June and November of even years (e.g., November 2016) (Elections Code section 1001);

WHEREAS, generally, voter participation is greater for statewide general elections than for special local elections, including school board member elections;

WHEREAS, the Board believes that rescheduling to "even-year elections" may enhance voter participation in school board elections;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that there may be a cost savings to the District resulting from aligning the District's elections with the statewide general elections;

WHEREAS, as a result of these facts, the Board desires to change the date of future Board elections to be consolidated with the California statewide general election, in order to enhance voter participation and use District and County resources efficiently;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that although there is a cost savings to the District resulting from aligning the District's elections with the statewide general elections, this is not the reason for the Board's decision;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the terms of its members would be extended as a result of aligning the District's elections with the statewide general elections;

WHEREAS, Elections Code section 1302(b) establishes a procedure whereby the Board may change the election date for its Board members by adopting a resolution seeking approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors of the affected county (elections Code section 10405.5); and

WHEREAS, if the change in election date is approved, the election date for Board members will be moved from November of odd years to November of even years commencing in 2018, with Board members whose terms would have expired in 2017 being extended to 2018, and Board members whose terms would have expired in 2019 being extended to 2020, as required by Elections Code section 10401.5(g) [refer to Exhibit A].

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the above recitals are true and correct; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Newhall School District Governing Board adopts this resolution to consolidate the election day for members of the Board with the California general election in November in even years (Elections Code 1001) pursuant to Elections Code section 1302(b).,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent will forward this resolution to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and request formal approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors at a public meeting within 60 days after submission and after the resolution has been posted in accordance with law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the consolidation of election is adopted and submitted to the Board of Supervisors at least 240 days prior to the next scheduled school Board election (Elections Code section 10404.5(a)) and if the Board of Supervisors approves of the consolidation, the date of the District's next Board election will be moved to November 2018 and each subsequent Board member election will be held two years thereafter in November of even years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the consolidation of election is approved, the term of office of current Board members expiring in November 2017 will be extended to November 2018, and the term of Board members expiring in November 2019 will be extended to November 2020.

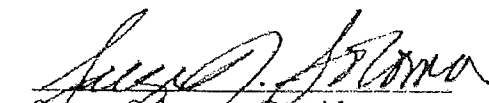
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District's superintendent or his designee is authorized to take such actions and execute such documentation necessary to effect the intent of this Resolution.

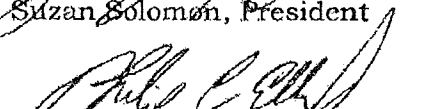
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Newhall School District, Los Angeles County, California, on this 17th day of May, 2016 at a duly noticed meeting, by the following vote:

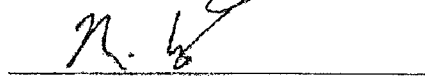
Aye: 4 No: 0

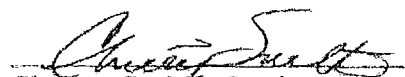
Abstain: 1

Absent: 0

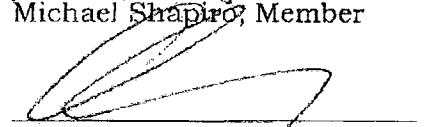

Suzan Solomon, President


Philip C. Ellis, Jr., Member


Brian Walters, Member

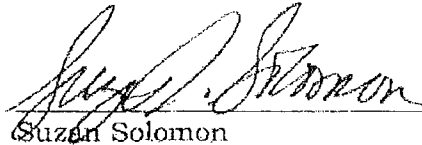

Christy Smith, Clerk


Michael Shapiro, Member


Paul Cordeiro, Superintendent

I, Suzan Solomon, President of the Governing Board of the Newhall School District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by said Governing Board on the 17th day of May, 2016.

Date: May 17, 2016



Suzan Solomon
President of the Governing Board of the
Newhall School District
Los Angeles County, California

Certified a True Copy



Christy Smith
Clerk of the Governing Board of the
Newhall School District
Los Angeles County, California

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
ASSESSMENT
APPEALS BOARD**Exhibit A****Board Member****Current Election Year****New Election Year**

Philip C. Ellis, Jr.
Michael Shapiro
Christy Smith
Suzan Solomon
Brian Walters

2017
2019
2017
2019
2017

2018
2020
2018
2020
2018