

2014 Council Study Issue

**OCA 14-01 Consider Adding Campaign Contribution Information to RTCs;
Consider Barring Councilmembers from Voting on Items Involving Parties that
Contributed to a Councilmember Campaign**

Lead Department: OCA

Sponsor(s) Meyering, Whittum

History 1 year ago: 2 years ago: Second Issue Dropped

1. **Scope of the Study**

a. What are the key elements of the study?

The Political Reform Act (PRA), which is administered by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), establishes state regulations regarding conflicts of interest and disqualification for public officials. Covered officials must disqualify themselves from a proceeding if they have received contributions of more than \$250 during the previous 12 months from a party with a financial interest in the proceedings. Directly elected officials, like city councilmembers, are expressly exempted from the definition of covered officials. This study issue would examine and analyze going beyond the requirements of the PRA to include directly elected councilmembers as covered officials required to disqualify themselves if they have received campaign contributions from a party with a financial interest in the proceedings. Additionally, it would discuss adding a disclosure statement section to Reports to Council (RTC) noting whether a particular councilmember received a campaign contribution from a particular applicant. Staff would review existing laws and regulations, and research legal and policy issues related to the issue.

b. What precipitated this study?

This was precipitated by Councilmember Meyering's opinion that campaign contributions influence voting.

c. Is this a multiple year project? No Planned Completion Year: 2014

2. **Fiscal Impact**

a. Cost to Conduct Study

i. Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost)

Major Moderate Minor

ii. Amount of funding above current budget required \$ N/A

Will seek budget supplement Will seek grant funding

iii. Explanation of Cost: N/A

b. Costs to Implement Study Results

No cost to implement.

Unknown. Study would include assessment of potential costs.

Some cost to implement. Explanation:

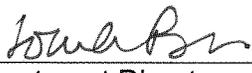
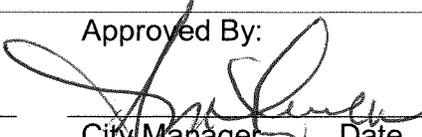
3. **Expected participation in the process**

- Council-approved work plan
- Council Study Session
- Board/Commission Review by

4. **Staff Recommendation**

- a. Position: None

- b. Explanation: N/A

Reviewed By:	Approved By:
 5/3/13	 5/15/13
Department Director Date	City Manager Date