



**Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Office of the City Clerk**

Date: September 19, 2011
To: Ways & Means/Budget Committee
Subject: Funding for 2011 Special Elections
Recommendation: Passage of a resolution amending the 2011 General Appropriation Resolution as follows:
a) Increasing the City Clerk general fund budget (Fund 00100 2600500) by up to \$200,000, needed for the potential four (4) "election events" that will be conducted in 2011; and
b) Decreasing the contingency fund appropriation (Fund 00100 1750100) by up to \$200,000.
Prepared by: Anne Roth 612-673- 3130
Approved by: Casey Joe Carl, City Clerk
Financial Impact:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action requires an appropriation increase to the _____ Capital Budget or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating Budget.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Background/Supporting Information:

The resignation of Senator Linda Berglin triggered the necessity to conduct a special election to fill the unexpired term for that district. The Governor called the primary for SD-61 to occur Tuesday, September 13, with the general election to follow on Tuesday, October 18, 2011. It is possible that a subsequent special election may be required if a House District becomes vacant as a result of the Senate election. This would equate to four unplanned election "events" in the current fiscal year. In the normal four-year cycle, 2011 was not a programmed election year; thus, no funds have been appropriated for any election activities. Staff has conservatively estimated a total fiscal impact of \$200,000 for all four election events, which would support the following required expenditures:

- Election Judge salaries
- Seasonal employees to support absentee balloting
- Prep, testing and transporting of Voting equipment
- Polling place rentals
- Materials & Postage

[See attached spreadsheet for more details.]

The City Clerk's Office respectfully requests that City Council authorize the transfer of \$200,000 from the City's contingency fund to the City Clerk/Election Division budget, and authorize the use of those monies for the anticipated four unplanned election events in 2011. A resolution that effectuates this request is attached for review and reference.

2011 Projected Election Costs for Special Elections

Prepared by Office of City Clerk – Elections Division

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	SENATE		HOUSE		TOTALS
	Prim SD61	Gen SD61	Prim 61B	Gen 61B	
Election Judges	21,114	24,000	11,200	13,600	69,914
Precinct Support Judges	480	480	240	240	1,440
Healthcare Judges	3,120	3,120	2,880	2,880	12,000
PA Test Judges	50	50	50	50	200
Warehouse Lead	2,611	3,436	3,436	3,436	12,919
Warehouse Asst	2,501	3,291	3,291	3,291	12,374
Seasonal Staff	6,727	6,736	5,613	5,613	24,689
Overtime Seasonal	1,984	1,984	1,984	1,984	7,936
Overtime Staff	2,395	2,395	2,395	2,395	9,580
PA Test Publishing	1,139	1,139	1,139	1,139	4,557
AB Postage	1,577	1,576	1,294	1,335	5,783
EJ Postage	1,247	1,178	1,183	1,146	4,755
Drayage	2,674	2,674	1,634	1,634	8,617
Printing	1,614	1,614	1,614	1,614	6,457
Polling Place Rental	1,834	1,834	1,434	1,434	6,537
Misc	200	200	200	200	800
TOTALS	\$51,269	\$55,708	\$39,588	\$41,992	\$188,558

NOTE: The elections budget is tied to a four-year cycle. In three of those years, regular elections (federal, state, and local) are programmed and budgeted for; in the fourth year of the cycle, no elections are programmed and financial resources are reduced accordingly. Because 2011 was programmed as the "off" year in the cycle, no financial resources were allocated in the current fiscal year's plan to accommodate these special elections.

Requesting authorization and allocation of \$200,000 in contingency funding to cover these four elections.

RESOLUTION 2011R-_____
By Hodges

Amending The 2011 General Appropriation Resolution.

Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the above-entitled Resolution, as amended, be further amended by:

- a) increasing the City Clerk budget in General Fund (00100 2600500) by up to \$200,000; and
- b) decreasing contingency budget in General Fund (00100 1750100) by up to \$200,000 on a one-time basis.