



# CITY OF SAN MATEO

City Hall  
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## Agenda Report

Agenda Number: 3

Section Name: {{section.name}}

Account Number: 10-1511

File ID: {{item.tracking\_number}}

**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Alex Khojikian, City Manager  
**PREPARED BY:** City Clerk's Office  
**MEETING DATE:** November 20, 2023  
**SUBJECT:**  
Campaign Finance Voluntary Expenditure Limit – Ordinance Adoption

### RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt an Ordinance to amend Chapter 2.80 "Contributions and Loans to City Candidate Campaigns" to add Section 2.80.055 "Voluntary Expenditure Limit", and amend various sections related to recall elections and aggregation of contributions.

### BACKGROUND:

On November 6, 2023, the City Council introduced the attached proposed ordinance (Attachment 1) to amend Municipal Code Chapter 2.80 "Contributions and Loans to City Candidate Campaigns" to add Section 2.80.055 "Voluntary Expenditure Limit", and amend various sections related to recall elections and aggregation of contributions. If adopted, this ordinance shall be effective on January 1, 2024.

The City Council also directed staff to no longer charge candidates for the cost of candidate statements in the County's sample ballot and voter information guide. Because the City will now absorb these costs, proposed ordinance subsection 2.80.055(d)(3) that would have included such expenditures towards the voluntary expenditure limit is no longer needed. Related language was also removed from subsection 2.80.055(d)(4)(A). These changes are shown in Attachment 2. Pursuant to Charter Section 2.15(d), which allows for limited amendments between introduction and adoption, the referenced language has been removed and the ordinance may be adopted without reintroduction.

### BUDGET IMPACT:

There is no budget impact associated with this administrative action.

### ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

This ordinance adoption is not a project subject to CEQA, because it is an organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5).)

### NOTICE PROVIDED

All meeting noticing requirements were met.

### ATTACHMENTS

Att 1 – Proposed Ordinance  
Att 2 – Proposed Ordinance (Tracked Changes)

**STAFF CONTACT**

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