

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-08**

**A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS  
INTENTION TO TRANSITION FROM AT-LARGE TO  
DISTRICT-BASED ELECTIONS PURSUANT TO  
CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE 10010(e)(3)(A)**

**WHEREAS**, Members of the City Council of the City of Los Alamitos (“City”) are currently elected in at-large elections, in which each City Council Member is elected by all registered voters of the entire City; and

**WHEREAS**, Government Code Section 34886 authorizes the City Council to adopt an ordinance to change its method of election from an at-large system to a district-based system, in which each City Council Member is elected only by the voters in the district in which the candidate resides; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 29, 2018, the City received a certified letter from attorney Keven Shenkman of the law firm of Shenkman & Hughes asserting that the City’s at-large councilmember electoral system violates the California Voting Rights Act (“CVRA”) and threatening litigation if the City declines to voluntarily change to a district-based election system for electing council members; and

**WHEREAS**, the City denies its election system violates the CVRA or any other provision of law and asserts the City’s election system is legal in all respects and further denies any wrongdoing whatsoever regarding the way it has conducted its City Council elections; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the foregoing, the City Council has concluded it is in the public interest to begin the process of transition from at-large to district-based elections due to the uncertainty of litigation to defend against a CVRA lawsuit and the potentially extraordinary cost of such a lawsuit, even if the City were to prevail.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** The City Council of the City of Los Alamitos, California, finds that the above recitals are true and correct.

**SECTION 2.** The City Council hereby outlines its intention to transition from at-large to district-based elections, the specific steps it will undertake to facilitate this transition, and an estimated time frame for doing so.

SECTION 3. The City Council shall select and retain a demographer experienced and qualified to assist the City in drafting a district map consistent with the CVRA and the Federal Voting Rights Act.

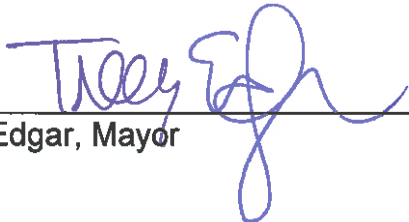
SECTION 4. City staff shall work with the selected demographer to provide a detailed analysis of the City's current demographics and any other information or data necessary to prepare a draft map that divides the City into voting districts in a manner consistent with the intent and purpose of the CRVRA and the Federal Voting Rights Act.

SECTION 5. The City Council hereby approves the tentative timeline as set forth in Exhibit "A", attached to and made a part of this resolution, for conducting a public process to solicit public input and testimony on proposed district-based electoral maps before adopting any such map.

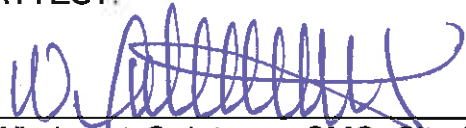
SECTION 6. The timeline contained in Exhibit "A" may be adjusted by the City Manager as deemed necessary, provided that such adjustments shall not prevent the City from complying with the time frames specified by Elections Code Section 10010.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk shall certify as to the adoption of this Resolution.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Troy Edgar, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

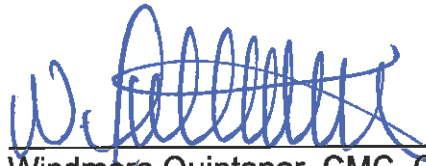
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael S. Daudt, City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
COUNTY OF ORANGE ) ss  
CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS )

I, Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk, of the City of Los Alamitos, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2018, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	Murphy, Chirco, Edgar, Hasselbrink, Kusumoto
NOES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None
ABSTAIN:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

## Exhibit A

### TENTATIVE TIMELINE: CONSIDERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF “DISTRICT-BASED” ELECTION METHOD

DATE	EVENT	COMMENT
March 29, 2018	City received demand letter	City has 45 days to adopt Resolution of Intention to change to district elections.
May 11, 2018 Friday	City Council adopts Resolution declaring its intention to transition from at-large to district-based elections	CVRA action cannot be commenced for 90 days (August 9, 2018)
May 11, 2018 Friday	City Council approves Consulting Services Agreement with qualified demographer	
	Public Outreach regarding process and to encourage public participation	
May 21, 2018 Monday	1 <sup>st</sup> Public Hearing	City Council hearing regarding composition of district; no maps yet.
June 4, 2018 Monday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing  <i>Must be conducted no more than 30 days from the 1<sup>st</sup> public hearing date</i>	City Council hearing regarding composition of district; no maps yet.
June 6, 2018 Wednesday	Post draft maps and potential sequence of elections	Draft maps and proposed sequence must be posted publicly at least 7 days before 3 <sup>rd</sup> Public Hearing.
June 18, 2018 Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Public Hearing	City Council hearing regarding composition of district.
June 20, 2018 Wednesday	Post any new or amended maps and potential sequence of elections.	Draft maps and proposed sequence must be posted publicly at least 7 days before 3 <sup>rd</sup> Public Hearing.
July 9, 2018 Monday	4 <sup>th</sup> Public Hearing – Select map, City Council introduces ordinance establishing district elections, including district boundaries and election sequence	
July 16, 2018 Monday	5 <sup>th</sup> Public Hearing – second reading of ordinance establishing district elections	Ordinance must be adopted at a Regular Council meeting
August 8, 2018	<b>Day 90</b>	
August 15, 2018	Effective date of ordinance establishing district elections	