



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

Date: November 14, 2011

To: The Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways & Means/Budget Committee

Subject: Funding for 2011-2012 Special Election for Senate District 59

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 \$125,000, needed for the Special Senate District 59 Election that will be conducted on December 6, 2011 and January 10, 2012; and
- b) Decreasing the contingency fund appropriation (Fund 00100 1750100) by up to \$125,000.

Prepared by: Anne Roth (ext. 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 Lawrence J. Pogemiller (Senate District 59) triggers the necessity to conduct a special election to fill the unexpired term for that seat. The Governor has called the primary for SD-59 to occur Tuesday, December 6, 2011, with the general election to follow on Tuesday, January 10, 2012. This is in conjunction with the special election previously called to fill the vacancy in House District 61B. The City Council previously authorized the use of \$200,000 in contingency funds to pay for the special elections in Senate District 61 and House District 61B; however, no additional funding was appropriated at that time for the Senate District 59 special election.

Staff conservatively estimates a total fiscal impact of \$125,000 for the two election events related to SD59, as detailed on the attached spreadsheet.

The City Clerk's Office respectfully requests that City Council authorize the transfer of \$125,000 from the City's contingency fund to the City Clerk/Election Division budget, and authorize the use of those monies for the anticipated two unplanned election events in 2011-2012 for Senate District 59 (primary and general). Higher estimated expenses for the SD59 (over SD 61) are based on these factors. SD59 has 10,000 more pre-registered voters than SD 61 and four larger nursing homes. In 2010 SD59 had higher voter turnout (+7,700), higher election day registration (+3,235) and nearly double the number of absentee ballots compared to SD 61. A resolution effectuating 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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	Projected	Projected	Projected	Projected	Projected	Projected	
	Prim SD61	Gen SD61	Prim 61B	Gen 61B	Prim SD59	Gen SD59	TOTALS
Election Judges	\$24,764	\$27,650	\$14,370	\$16,770	\$27,251	\$29,742	\$140,547
Seasonal Staff	\$13,823	\$15,447	\$14,324	\$14,324	\$18,147	\$22,206	\$98,271
Election Staff Overtime	\$2,395	\$2,395	\$2,395	\$2,395	\$3,797	\$4,063	\$17,440
PA Test Publishing	\$1,139	\$1,139	\$1,139	\$1,139	\$1,139	\$1,139	\$6,834
Postage	\$2,824	\$2,754	\$2,477	\$2,481	\$3,756	\$3,756	\$18,048
Drayage	\$2,674	\$2,674	\$1,634	\$1,634	\$3,556	\$3,556	\$15,728
Printing	\$1,614	\$1,614	\$1,614	\$1,614	\$2,098	\$2,098	\$10,652
Polling Place Rental	\$1,834	\$1,834	\$1,434	\$1,434	\$2,439	\$2,439	\$11,414
Miscellaneous	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$266	\$266	\$1,332
School Engineer overtime	\$123	\$123	\$123	\$123	\$195	\$209	\$896
Radios/SwiftReach	\$400	\$400	\$200	\$200	\$500	\$500	\$2,200
Mileage	\$193	\$193	\$150	\$150	\$245	\$245	\$1,176
TOTALS	\$51,983	\$56,423	\$40,060	\$42,464	\$63,389	\$70,219	\$324,538

NOTE: The elections division budget is tied to a four-year cycle: in three of those years, regular elections (federal, state, and local) are programmed but no regular elections are programmed in the fourth year. Because 2011 was programmed as the "off" year in the four-year cycle (2008-11), no financial resources were allocated in the current fiscal year plan for these special elections. The City Council previously authorized the transfer and use of \$200,000 in contingency funds to offset costs associated with the SD61 and HD61B special elections. The current request supplements that earlier funding to offset the anticipated costs for the SD59 special elections.

Requesting authorization and allocation of \$125,000 in contingency funding to cover these two election events.

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 \$125,000; and
- b) decreasing contingency budget in General Fund (00100 1750100) by up to \$125,000 on a one-time basis.