

Attachment 2: District Impact Analysis and Resolution

**Impact Analysis
District Consolidation from Odd-Year to Even-Year General Elections
Redway Community Services District**

To: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

From: Kelly E. Sanders, Clerk/Recorder/Registrar of Voters

Date: January 24, 2018

Summary

On January 22, 2019, the Humboldt County Office of Elections received Resolution No. 2018-2019-02 from the Redway Community Services District requesting the district election cycle transition to even-numbered years. As required by Elections Code, Section 10404 (d), the following is an impact analysis of the effects that may result due to the consolidation.

The Redway Community Services District, which has approximately 674 registered voters, currently participates in odd-numbered year elections, however the Office of Elections has checked back to 1999 and cannot find an instance where the district has had sufficient nominees to go to election. Since there is no election to compare results, Redway Community Services District does not fall below the threshold set forth in Elections Code, Section 14052, and it is not mandatory for the district to transition to even-numbered year elections at this time. However, Elections Code, Section 1303(b), allows the governing body of a special district the ability to transition to even-numbered year elections regardless of whether it experiences decreased voter turnout, so any special district can transition to even-numbered year elections.

Fiscal Impact, Districts

Many jurisdictions participate in even-numbered year statewide elections (federal, state, county and cities) and share the costs. The portion attributable to federal, state and county, which on average is approximately 87% of the total cost of an even-numbered year election, is absorbed by the county. Therefore the amount charged to each local jurisdiction, i.e. cities, schools and special districts, is much lower in an even-numbered year.

If Redway Community Services District transitions to even-numbered election years and goes to election in the future, it would most certainly pay much less than if it remains in odd-numbered year elections and actually goes to the ballot.

Other districts not transitioning to even-numbered years may see an increase in expenses. There are times when jurisdictions don't have sufficient nominees to go to election in odd-numbered years. When there is less sharing of voters or ballot types, costs increase to the remaining districts and, at times, a district is responsible for the full cost of a ballot type. The likelihood of a district bearing the entire cost of a ballot type will increase for districts that remain in odd-numbered years.

Fiscal Impact, County

As districts move from odd to even-year elections, there will be an overall cost increase including costs due to additional ballot types, a longer ballot, and the probability of a two page ballot. The size of the voter information guide will increase as will the costs for mailing the voter guide and vote-by-mail ballots. Additional staff and extra help hours will be expended for logic and accuracy testing, programming, and processing ballots. Though districts will continue to be billed for their share in election costs, theirs is a much smaller percentage of total costs. The County's actual costs are expected to increase.

Elections Code, Section 15372, states the elections official shall prepare a certified statement of the results of the election and submit it to the governing body within 30 days of the election. Because governing board members of special districts would take office on the first Friday in December following the district general election, Elections Code, Section 10511(a), requires the elections official to declare the elected candidate or candidates no later than the Monday before the first Friday in December, which will shorten the canvass period for elections in even-numbered years from 30 days to 27 days. This would negatively impact the Office of Elections, especially in a Presidential Election year when all 30 days are needed to complete the canvass. Automated scanning and sorting equipment to assist staff with processing the ever increasing volume of vote-by-mail ballots would be required.

Impact on Voters

The original purpose of UDEL elections was to provide a local platform for districts and candidates to appeal to voters, avoiding conflict with the extensive state and federal general election cycle. Even though voter turnout is higher in a general election with the consolidation of special districts, there will be more contests and candidates appearing on the ballot and more measures and candidate statements appearing in the voter information guide. This can lead to an increase in voter drop off, that is, voters failing to make their way through all of the information and through all of the races on the ballot.

California Voter Participation Rights Act (CVPR)
Voter Turnout Analysis Worksheet

District Redway Community Services District

Benchmark: School and special districts with significant decrease in voter turnout*.

***Elections Code: Sections 14050-14057**

New provision: Provides that commencing January 1, 2018, a political subdivision [school and/or special district] is prohibited from holding an election other than on a statewide election date if holding an election on a non-concurrent date has previously resulted in voter turnout for a regularly-scheduled election in that political subdivision being at least 25 percent less than the average voter turnout within the political subdivision for the previous 4 statewide general elections, except as specified.

Election	Date of Election	Registered Voters Total (#)	Voter Turnout Total (#)	Voter Turnout Total (%)	Difference (GEN - UDEL)
UDEL	no district election			no district election	n/a
Statewide General	11/6/2018	674	428	63.5%	
Presidential General	11/8/2016	721	470	65.19%	
Statewide General	11/4/2014	712	331	46.49%	
Presidential General	11/6/2012	744	496	66.67%	
AVERAGES		728	445	61.09%	



Redway Community Services District
P.O. Box 40
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(707) 923-3101

RESOLUTION 2018-2019-02

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
REDWAY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

ADOPTION OF RESCHEDULING ELECTION OF GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

WHERE AS, the Redway Community Services District ("District") is a Community Services District organized and operating entirely within the County of Humboldt pursuant to California Government Code section 61000 et seq; and

WHERE AS, California Senate Bill 415, an act (which may be cited to as the California Voter Participation Rights Act (herein "the CVPRA") to add Chapter 1.7 (commencing with Section 14050) to Division 14 of the Elections Code, was approved by the California Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on September 1, 2015, Statutes of 2015, Chapter 235; and

WHERE AS, commencing January 1, 2018, the CVPRA prohibits a political subdivision from holding an election other than on a statewide election date (i.e. "off-cycle") if holding an election on a non-concurrent date has previously resulted in voter turnout for a regularly scheduled election in the political subdivision being at least 25% less than the average voter turnout within the political subdivision for the previous four statewide general elections; and

WHERE AS, the current date for election of members of the Board of Directors of the District (hereinafter "Board") is every two (2) years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years (e.g. November 2017 and 2019); and

WHERE AS, statewide elections are held in California only in June and November of even-numbered years (e.g. next election June and November 2018) (Elections Code section 1001); and

WHERE AS, generally voter turnout is greater for statewide general elections than for local elections, including special district board member elections held in November of odd-numbered years; and

WHERE AS, the Board wishes to increase voter participation in elections for Board members; and

WHERE AS, the District may achieve a savings in the cost of its elections, if the District's elections are consolidated with the statewide general elections; and

WHERE AS, as a result of these facts, the Board desires to change the date of future board member elections to be conducted in years after 2017 to be consolidated with the California statewide general election in order to save public funds and provide greater voter input into the District's elections; and

WHERE AS, under sections 61000-61250 of the Government Code, the elections and terms of office for board members are determined pursuant to the Uniform District Elections Law (Elections Code section 10500 et seq);



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WHERE AS, Pursuant to Elections Code 10505(d), the District is authorized by section 10404 of the Elections Code to adopt a resolution requiring that its Board-member elections be held on the same day as the statewide general elections; and

WHERE AS, , if the change in election date is approved, it is requested that the new election date be moved from the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November 2019 to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November 2020 with board members whose terms would have expired in 2021 being extended to 2022, as required by Elections Code section 10404(i).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Redway Community Services District does hereby find, determine and/or declare, as follows:

1. Each of the foregoing is true and correct.
2. The Board of Directors adopts this resolution to consolidate the election date for members of the Board with the date for the California general election in November in even-numbered years (Elections Code section 1001) pursuant to Elections Code section 10404(b), and to pay the expense of mailing notice of approval of the change in election date by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors as required by Elections Code 10404(f).
3. The Board Secretary will forward this resolution to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors explaining the rationale for the resolution and requesting formal approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors at a public meeting held within 60 days after submission and after the resolution has been posted in accordance with the law.
4. If the consolidation of election is approved by the Board of Supervisors, the date of that election will be moved to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November 2020 and each subsequent board member election will be held two years thereafter in November of even years.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED at a duly called meeting of the Board of Directors of the Redway Community Services District on December 19, 2018 by the following polled vote:

AYES: (5)

Dian Griffith
Scott Kender
Art M^cClure
Michael McKaskle
Linda Sutton



Art M^cClure, Chairman of the Board



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CERTIFICATION

I, Nancy D. Jurrens, duly appointed and Secretary to the Board of the Redway Community Services District, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and approved by the Board of Directors of the Redway Community Services District on the 19th day of December 2018.
Governing Body Public Entity

December 20, 2018
Date


Nancy Jurrens, Secretary to the Board

Jackson, Lucinda

From: Glenn Gradin <ggradin.rcsd@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 2:54 PM
To: Jackson, Lucinda
Subject: Redway CSD - Even year elections - RESOLUTION 2018 - 2019 - 02-01172019092747.pdf
Attachments: RESOLUTION 2018 - 2019 - 02-01172019092747.pdf

Hi Lucinda,
Here is the resolution pertaining for the CSD to participate in the even year general election cycle.

Best Regards,

Glenn Gradin

Redway Community Services District

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