

**Impact Analysis
District Consolidation from Odd-Year to Even-Year General Elections
Garfield School District**

To: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

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

Date: March 18, 2019

Summary

On March 6, 2019, the Humboldt County Office of Elections received a resolution from the Garfield School District requesting the district election cycle be held in even-numbered years. Pursuant to Elections Code, Section 10404.5 (d)(1), the following is an impact analysis of the effects that may result due to the consolidation.

Garfield School District, which has approximately 268 registered voters, currently participates in odd-numbered year elections, 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, Garfield School 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 1302(b), allows the governing body of a school district the ability to transition to even-numbered year elections regardless of whether it experiences decreased voter turnout, so any school 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 Garfield School 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 changing to even-numbered years may see an increase in expenses. There are times when jurisdictions don't have sufficient nominees to go to election. 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.

RECEIVED
MAR - 6 2019

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
ELECTIONS

RESOLUTION REGARDING CHANGING OF ELECTION DAY OF THE GOVERNING BOARD AND REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT TO AUTHORIZE CONSOLIDATION WITH THE NOVEMBER ELECTION DURING EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS

WHEREAS, §§ 1302(b) and 10404.5 of the Elections Code permits the Garfield School District to change its election day with the approval of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt;

WHEREAS, it is the intent and desire of the Governing Board of Garfield School District to provide its constituents with the lowest possible cost while promoting the increasingly efficient and effective use of government resources; and

WHEREAS, by changing the next governing board election from November, 2019 to November, 2020, the costs of an election would be deferred for an additional calendar year;

WHEREAS, in order to comply with the mandate of SB 415 (Elections Code § 14050 et seq.), requiring political subdivisions that have had a significant decrease in voter turnout to hold their elections only on the same day as a statewide election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DECLARED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That pursuant to Elections Code §§ 1302(b) and 10404.5, the Governing Board hereby, by this resolution, changes its election from the First Tuesday after the First Monday in November of each odd-numbered year to the First Tuesday after the First Monday in November of each even-numbered year; and, further, that the election shall be consolidated with all other elections held throughout the territory on that day.

Section 2. That terms of officeholders shall be extended as necessary, but no more than twelve months.

Section 3. That the Registrar of Voters shall cause, at district expense, a notice to be mailed to all registered voters in the County of Humboldt informing them of the change of election date specified herein and of the resultant changes in terms of the elected officeholders.

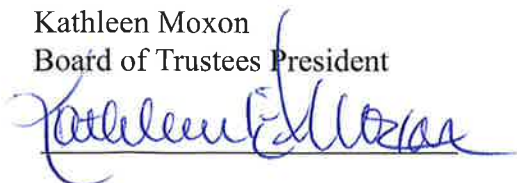
Section 4. This resolution shall become operative upon approval by all of the above-named Board of Supervisors pursuant to Elections Code §§ 1302(b) and 10404.5.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of February, 2019 at the Regular Meeting of the Garfield School District Board of Trustees meeting.

Michael Quinlan
Superintendent/Principal



Kathleen Moxon
Board of Trustees President



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

To: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

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

Date: March 18, 2019

Summary

On March 11, 2019, the Humboldt County Office of Elections received Resolution No. 2019-2 from the Briceland 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 Briceland Community Services District, which has approximately 35 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, Briceland 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 Briceland 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.

MAR 11 2019

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
ELECTIONS

RESOLUTION 2019 - 2

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS
OF THE BRICELAND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT TO
RESCHEDULE ELECTION OF GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS**

WHEREAS, the Briceland Community Services District ("District") is a Community Services District organized and operating entirely within the County of Humboldt pursuant to California Government Code, Section 61000-61250; and

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, 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 2019 and 2021); and

WHEREAS, statewide elections are held in California only in June and November of even-numbered years (e.g. March and November 2020) (Elections Code, Section 1001); and

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to increase voter participation in elections for Board members and

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, as a result of these facts, the Board desires to change the date of future board member elections 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

WHEREAS, 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.);

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Elections Code, Section 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

WHEREAS, 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).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Briceland 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, Section 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 Briceland Community Services District on March 8, 2019 by the following polled vote:

AYES: JIM COURTOIS, CHESTINE ANDERSON, LINDA FERETTO

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: ABSTAIN: AL KARL, SARAH HARMON


Board Chair

Attest:


Secretary

Impact Analysis
District Consolidation from Odd-Year to Even-Year General Elections
Willow Creek Community Services District

To: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

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

Date: March 18, 2019

Summary

On March 7, 2019, the Humboldt County Office of Elections received Resolution No. 2019-01 from the Willow Creek 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 Willow Creek Community Services District, which has approximately 823 registered voters, currently participates in odd-numbered year elections. The district wants to reduce future election costs by moving to even-numbered year general elections. Willow Creek Community Services District does not fall below the threshold set forth in Elections Code, Section 14052, and it is not mandatory for them to switch to even-numbered years 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 they experience decreased voter turnout or not, so any special district can move.

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.

In the November 1999 Uniform District Election (UDEL), Willow Creek Community Services District had three governing board member positions on the ballot. The cost per voting opportunity for the UDEL was \$.47, and the Willow Creek Community Services District was charged approximately \$1,155 (819 registered voters x 3 voting opportunities x \$1.41). The average cost of the past three statewide general elections held in even numbered years is \$.25 per voting opportunity. Willow Creek Community Services District would have paid approximately \$614 for a contest that appeared on a statewide general election 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.

RECEIVED

MAR - 7 2019

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
ELECTIONS

RESOLUTION 2019 – 01

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE WILLOW CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT TO RESCHEDULE ELECTION OF GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

WHEREAS, the Willow Creek Community Services District (“District”) is a Community Service District organized and operating entirely within the County of Humboldt pursuant to California Government Code, Section 61000-61250; and

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, 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 a least 25% less than average voter turnout within the political subdivision for the previous four statewide general elections; and

WHEREAS, the current date for election of members of the Board of Directors of the District (hereinafter “Board”) is every 2 years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years (e.g. November 2019 and 2021); and

WHEREAS, statewide elections are held in California only in June and November of even-numbered years (e.g. March and November 2020) (Elections Code, Section 1001); and

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to increase voter participation in elections for Board members and

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, as a result of these facts, the Board desires to change the date of future board member elections 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

WHEREAS, under sections 61000-61250 of the Community Services District Code, the elections and terms of office for the board members are determined pursuant to the Uniform District Elections Law (Elections Code, Section 10500 et seq.);

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Elections Code, Section 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

WHEREAS, 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).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Willow Creek Community Services District does hereby find, determine and/or declare, as follows;


1. Each of the foregoing in 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 Election Code, Section 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 the 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 Willow Creek Community Services District on February 28, 2019 by the following polled vote;

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT: ABSTAIN:



Board Chair, Judy Gower

Attest:



Secretary