



CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

TO: Honorable City Council **Item No. _____**

FROM: City Administrator

SUBJECT: Request to telecast City Council Candidates' Forum

MEETING DATE: May 16, 2017

RECOMMENDATION:

The City Council will consider appropriate action regarding the Industrial Council's request to have the City televise a candidate's forum relating to the June 6, 2017, General Municipal Election.

ANALYSIS:

The Industrial Council requested the broadcast of the Candidate's Forum that took place May 4, 2015, sponsored by the Industrial Council in conjunction with the League of Women Voters, a non-partisan organization.

The candidate forum has been recorded by the Cable TV Division staff and volunteers, and could be rebroadcast on Cable Channel 3, the City's municipal access channel.

The City Attorney has concluded that the airing of the candidates' forum is consistent with the public education content requirement regarding access channel programming. He has also determined that the City's participation in the forum does not violate the City's policy as to political activity and that the cost to produce the program is not considered "contributions" under the Political Reform Act as long as at least two candidates running for the office are invited to participate in the forum. All candidates were invited by the Industrial Council, and four candidates did not participate.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost for recording was approximately \$50. Volunteers and staff time was absorbed by the current budget cable operating budget. Combined with all other reasonable known, planned, and approved expenditures for this line item and cost center, the unencumbered balance of funds for the fiscal year is sufficient.

RELATIONSHIP TO 2016 STRATEGIC GOALS:

This agenda report relates to the strategic goal “Community Quality of Life.”

Respectfully submitted by: Matthew Rodriguez, Interim City Administrator

Recommended by: Lena Shumway, Administrative Services Director & City Clerk

Reviewed by: Eduardo Olivo, City Attorney