

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE, AMENDING CHAPTER 2.13 (ELECTION DATES) TO TITLE 2 (ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL) OF THE COMMERCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO MOVING THE CITY'S GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS TO THE FIRST TUESDAY AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY IN MARCH OF EACH EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR BEGINNING IN MARCH OF 2020

WHEREAS, the City of Commerce's (City) general municipal elections are now held in the month of June of alternating odd-numbered years;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 415 (SB 415) "Voter Participation" prohibits local governments, beginning January 1, 2018, from holding an election on any date other than a statewide election date if doing so has resulted in voter turnout being at least 25% below the average turnout in that jurisdiction in the previous four statewide general elections, except as specified; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with SB 415, the City has determined that it must adopt a transition plan to consolidate its general municipal elections with a statewide election date to occur not later than November 8, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Sections 1301 and 10403.5 of the California Elections Code, authorize the City Council to reschedule its general municipal election and to increase or decrease any terms of office by not more than 12 months; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to reschedule its general municipal election to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of even-numbered years to coincide with the statewide general elections beginning in March 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Change of Election Day. Pursuant to Sections 1000 and 1301 of the California Elections Code, the City's general municipal election shall be moved from June of odd-numbered years to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of even-numbered years to coincide with the statewide general elections to coincide with the statewide general election in 2020.

SECTION 2. Code Amendment. Chapter 2.13 of the Commerce Municipal Code is hereby amended to read:

Election Dates.

Pursuant to Section 36503 of the California Government Code and Sections 1000 and 1301 of the California Elections Code, the general municipal election of the City of Commerce, commencing with the 2020 election, shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of even-numbered years to coincide with statewide general elections."

SECTION 3. Adjustment to Terms of Office. In accordance with Sections 1301 and 10403.5 of the California Elections Code, the term of any elected City Officeholder that would have expired in June 2019 and June 2021 shall, instead, expire in the same manner, but after the occurrence of the March 2020 and March 2022 general municipal elections established by this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. Consolidated Elections. Pursuant to Section 1301 and 10403.5 of the California Elections Code, the City hereby requests the County of Los Angeles approve this ordinance and allow for consolidation of the City's general municipal election with the statewide general election conducted by the County in March of each even-numbered year, beginning in March 2020.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become operative upon approval by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors as provided by California Elections Code Sections 1301(b)(1) and 10403(a)(1).

SECTION 6. Notice to Voters. Pursuant to Section 10403.5(e) of the California Elections Code, within 30 days after this Ordinance becomes operative, the City elections official shall cause notice to be mailed to all registered voters informing the voters of the change in the election date made by this Ordinance and that, as a result of the change in election date, the terms of office of City Officeholders will be extended by not more than 12 months.

SECTION 7. Request to the County. The City Clerk shall forward a copy of this Ordinance to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors with a request that it be approved pursuant to California Elections Code Sections 1301 and 10403.5.