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14 JAN 30 PM 4: 37

CITY OF OAKLAND



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Noel Gallo

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City Council Member, District 5

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**TO:** Oakland City Council

**FROM:** Councilmember Noel Gallo

**DATE:** January 30, 2014

**RE:** Timeline for Discussion and Debate and Transparency Process for the Development of the 2014 Public Safety Measure

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Colleagues –

I hereby submit for your consideration a resolution establishing a timeline for discussion, debate, and public input for the development of the 2014 Public Safety Measure

As a City of Oakland official and Chair of the Public Safety Committee, I believe it is imperative that the Public Safety Committee, in conjunction with the public, facilitate the discussion and development of the 2014 Public Safety Measure. If we are to develop an effective measure, Oakland residents must be given ample opportunity to participate in the creation of such measure. As Oakland decision makers, I believe it is our duty to consider the public's feedback and input and to allow them to work with us to craft a ballot measure that is responsive to the needs and priorities of the City. Public participation and collaboration will enhance local government's effectiveness, expand its range of options, improve the quality of its decisions, improve response and service to its residents and enlist the problem-solving capacities of the general public and organizations outside local government.

Currently, no formal policy exists for clearly ensuring minimal levels of transparency or public participation into the development of ballot measures placed on the ballot via the adoption of a Resolution. I respectfully request that we work together to develop a timeline and transparency process for the development of an effective Public Safety Measure.

The attached resolution lists the following parameters as a general outline for your consideration and feedback

- 1 The development of the Public Safety Ballot Measure shall be a public process with decisions made in the Public Safety Committee of the Oakland City Council
- 2 The development of the Public Safety Ballot Measure shall include the participation of City Boards and Commissions that work on public safety related matters
- 3 The development of the Public Safety Ballot Measure shall allow for input and participation from formal and informal community groups, organizations, and individuals
- 4 The development of the Public Safety Ballot Measure shall take into full consideration the input provided by the public at the public hearings
- 5 Community hearings which shall take place in March, April, and May of 2014 shall be publicized and made available for public input, discussion, and development of the characteristics of the Public Safety Ballot Measure from community members who wish to comment
- 6 By June 10, 2014 the Public Safety Committee will entertain a draft of the proposed Public Safety Ballot Measure followed by additional discussion at its June 24, 2014 Public Safety Committee Meeting
- 7 The Oakland City Council will formally consider the Public Safety Ballot Measure at one or all of the Oakland City Council Meetings of July 1, 15, and 29 of 2014

I ask for your support of the attached resolution so that we can create and agree on a process for the development of this crucial ballot measure

Sincerely,



Councilmember Noel Gallo

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Approved as to Form and Legality

  
City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER NOEL GALLO

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RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE TIMELINE FOR DISCUSSION AND DEBATE BY THE COUNCIL REGARDING THE PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURE (FORMER MEASURE Y) TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL TO VOTERS ON THE NOVEMBER 4, 2014 BALLOT, AND ESTABLISHING A) A TRANSPARENT PUBLIC PROCESS THAT ALLOWS FOR MAXIMUM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, AND B) DESIGNATING THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE AS THE OFFICIAL DESIGNATED BODY TO DEVELOP POLICY FOR THE MEASURE TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

**WHEREAS**, the City Council may submit a measure to the voters by the adoption of a Resolution placing the item on the ballot, and

**WHEREAS**, elections Code §10403 requires that all material for the ballot be submitted to the Board of Supervisors and the County Elections Official not later than the 88<sup>th</sup> day before the election, and

**WHEREAS**, the 88<sup>th</sup> day deadline for the upcoming November 4, 2014 election is Friday, August 8, 2014, and

**WHEREAS**, every year, the City Council is on recess the month of August, and

**WHEREAS**, due to the August recess, the Council would need to adopt Resolutions placing measures on the ballot at a Council meeting between now and July 31, 2014, and

**WHEREAS**, according to the currently adopted 2014 Council meeting calendar, July 29, 2014 is the last Tuesday before the summer recess and therefore, the last meeting held before the August 8<sup>th</sup> deadline, and

**WHEREAS**, no formal policy currently exists for clearly ensuring minimal levels of transparency or public participation into the development of ballot measures placed on the ballot via the adoption of a Resolution, and

**WHEREAS**, public participation and collaboration will enhance local government's effectiveness, expand its range of options, improve the quality of its decisions, improve response and service to its residents and enlist the problem-solving capacities of the general public and organizations outside local government, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland is rich in community based organizations and individuals with knowledge and many talents who serve in both professional and volunteer capacities to improve the quality of life in Oakland, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland has more than 40 boards and commissions which provide an opportunity for residents to participate in the City's decision-making process by advising the City Council on a wide range of issues, and

**WHEREAS**, the Mission Statement of the City of Oakland states in part that "The City of Oakland is committed to the delivery of effective, courteous and responsive services," and

**WHEREAS**, the development of past ballot measures included a less formal public participation process, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That the City Council of the City of Oakland hereby finds, determines, declares and resolves that all of the recitals set forth above are true and correct, and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** In order to ensure that the public has access to and an ability to participate in the creation of the 2014 Public Safety Measure and that Oakland decision makers use the public feedback to help craft a ballot measure that is responsive to public needs and priorities, the City Council hereby adopts the Public Safety Ballot Measure Process Policy For Transparency And Public Participation, as set forth below

**PUBLIC SAFETY BALLOT MEASURE PROCESS FOR TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- 1 The development of the Public Safety Ballot Measure shall be a public process with decisions made in the Public Safety Committee of the Oakland City Council
- 2 The development of the Public Safety Ballot Measure shall include the participation of City Boards and Commissions that work on public safety related matters
- 3 The development of the Public Safety Ballot Measure shall allow for input and participation from formal and informal community groups, organizations, and individuals
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- 7 The Oakland City Council will formally consider the Public Safety Ballot Measure at one or all of the Oakland City Council Meetings of July 1, 15, and 29 of 2014

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the above policy is intended to ensure the minimal requirements and a baseline for transparency and public participation in the development of the 2014 Public Safety Ballot Measure and that the City of Oakland shall continually strive for more robust public participation in all its decision-making, and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES-           BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, SCHAAF  
and PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
LATONDA SIMMONS  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California