

"notice of suspension of vote on Action item 10 (B) from April 5, 2010 meeting

Wednesday, April 07, 2010
2:01 PM

Subject	"notice of suspension of vote on Action item 10 (B) from April 5, 2010 meeting
From	Santos, Tony
To	Handa, Marian
Cc	Williams, Jayne W; 'Steven Tavares'; 'Steven Hill'; Stephens, Bill; Souza, Diana; Williams, Jayne W; Prola, Jim; Starosciak, Joyce; Gregory, Michael; Hollister, Stephen; Reed, Ursula
Sent	Tuesday, April 06, 2010 11:43 AM

On April 5, 2010, the City Council deadlocked on Action Item 10 (B) when the council voted 3-3 on the matter. As we did not have seven members available, Council Member Gregory was absent due to his being in Japan on vacation, I believe his presence could very well have led to a favorable vote. The Council further have taken past actions approving Ranked Voting, including moving our City election to November 2010 and entering into an agreement with The County, Cities of Berkeley and Oakland, to reimburse the county for expenses incurred in implementing the process. If we don't participate in an IRV election in November, we would still be responsible for paying our share of the costs. Further, should we not participate in an IRV election, we will need to have a runoff; the runoff election will not occur before February 2011. There will be an additional cost in holding a runoff election. The total cost of holding two elections will skyrocket and balloon to about \$300,000. In this time of fiscal emergency, it is my opinion we cannot afford to not hold an IRV election in November 2010.

The authority for taking this action is provided in the City Charter; specifically, Section 305, subsection (h). This section reads as follows: The Mayor shall: "possess the authority to suspend implementation of any action taken by the Council by filing with the City Clerk, within three days after such Council action, a notice of suspension thereof. Such suspension shall constitute a motion for reconsideration of the action taken, to be voted upon by the Council at its next regular meeting."

There will be another vote on the matter on April 19, 2010.

Tony Santos, Mayor