

STATEMENT ON THE VACANT DISTRICT 2 SEAT

Since the November 2020 election, we learned that Councilmember Ramirez of District 2 would be moving to the Board of Supervisors, which has resulted in her seat becoming vacant.

Before the Council will be three options on how to fill the seat. The following are the options:

- Appointment: Candidates will interview with the Majority of the Council in Open Session.
- Special Election: The election will take place in November 2021. The County determined that the Special (Standalone) Election will cost over \$93,000. Government Code section 36512(b)(1) requires the special election to "be held on the next regularly established election date not less than 114 days from the call of the special election".
- Appointment/Special Election: An appointment will be made. The person will serve until the Special Election in November 2021, and that person will serve until the regular election of November 2022.

I believe that the Council should choose option one and appoint someone to finish out the term. Having a Special Election will leave the residents of District 2 without a Council Representative for nearly a full calendar year. The immediate appointment will serve the residents, and if Councilmember is not a good fit, the residents can vote them out in 2022.

I am sure the Council will make the right choice that benefits the residents of District 2 and NOT leave them without a Representative.