

**CITY OF TEMECULA
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: City Manager/City Council

FROM: Randi Johl, Director of Legislative Affairs/City Clerk

DATE: August 20, 2026

SUBJECT: Consider Options to Appoint Unopposed Candidates and Cancel the Portion of the November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election for Districts 1 and 3

PREPARED BY: Randi Johl, Director of Legislative Affairs/City Clerk

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council:

1. Adopt a resolution providing for the appointment of the lone nominated individuals to the offices of Districts 1 and 3 and cancel the election for those offices that was to be held on November 3, 2026, pursuant to Elections Code Section 10229; or
2. Take no action, with the result that the election for the offices of Districts 1 and 3 will proceed to election to be held on November 3, 2026.

BACKGROUND: The City of Temecula will conduct a general municipal election on November 3, 2026. The City has five electoral districts. Districts 1, 3 and 5 are on the November 2026 ballot. Districts 2 and 4 will be on the November 2028 ballot. As of the close of the nomination period on August 7, 2026 at 5:00 p.m., District 1 has one candidate (incumbent), District 3 has one candidate (incumbent), and District 5 has four candidates (including incumbent). As such, Districts 1 and 3 are uncontested.

Elections Code §10229 governs uncontested municipal elections. Following amendments enacted by AB 1784 effective January 1, 2025, subdivision (a) separately addresses citywide offices, legislative district offices, and at-large offices. When only one person is nominated for a legislative district office, the elections official certifies the facts to the governing body, which may (1) appoint the candidate, (2) appoint an elector if no candidate filed, or (3) proceed with the election.

If the first option is selected, the following is required before the appointment: (1) certification by the election official; (2) public notice under Gov. Code §6061; (3) five-day waiting period; and (4) appointment before the 75th day prior to the election. After appointment, write-in candidacies are no longer accepted for that office under §10229(c). Subdivision (d) expressly states that an appointment made in one legislative district does not affect the conduct of the municipal election in other legislative districts. Thus, appointments and elections may occur simultaneously in different districts and District 5 will proceed to election regardless.

In accordance with Elections Code §10229 the following has occurred:

- (1) City Clerk has certified that as of the close of the nomination period on August 7, 2026 at 5:00 p.m., District 1 has one candidate (incumbent) and District 3 has one candidate (incumbent), as such, Districts 1 and 3 are uncontested;
- (2) On August 13, 2026, the City published a notice, in English and Spanish, in the Riverside Press Enterprise, a newspaper of general circulation pursuant to law, entitled “CITY OF TEMECULA NOTICE THAT HERE ARE NOT MORE CANDIDATES THAN OFFICES TO BE ELECTED;”
- (3) August 20, 2026 is more than five (5) days following the publication of the Notice; and
- (4) August 20, 2026 is prior to 75 days before the November 3, 2026 municipal election.

It is therefore recommended that the City Council (1) adopt a resolution providing for the appointment of the lone nominated individuals to the offices of Districts 1 and 3 and cancel the election for those offices that was to be held on November 3, 2026, pursuant to Elections Code Section 10229; or (2) take no action, with the result that the election for the offices of Districts 1 and 3 will proceed to election to be held on November 3, 2026.

FISCAL IMPACT: While the exact amount is unknown, as the City has not received an estimate for the conduct of the November 2026 election from the Riverside Registrar of Voters, a cost savings is expected should the appointment option be selected.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Notice of Insufficient Nominees (English and Spanish)
3. City Clerk’s Certification