

## FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE RICHMOND ELECTION REFORM ACT - MEASURE \_\_\_\_\_

### Finance Director's statement on the fiscal impact of this Measure:

This measure proposes to require a primary municipal election be held before the general election beginning in the year 2026.

The initiative will add a primary municipal election to the City's election process whereby all qualified voters residing in a City Council district may vote for any one candidate running for that City Council seat and, if no single candidate receives a majority of the vote, the top two candidates in the primary municipal election (receiving the highest and second highest votes) for each City Council seat will subsequently appear on the general municipal election ballot. The initiative will also enable all eligible registered voters residing in the City at large to vote for any one candidate running for Mayor and, if no single candidate receives a majority of the vote, the top two candidates in the primary municipal election (receiving the highest and second highest votes) for the office of Mayor will subsequently appear on the general municipal election ballot.

If approved, this would add the cost to conduct a municipal primary election to occur in conjunction with every statewide primary election beginning in 2026. The cost is currently estimated at \$2.00 - \$3.00 per registered voter and based on approximately 60,000 registered voters. The breakdown of the estimated costs is as follows:

- \$80,000 - \$120,000 - **for primary election** based on a third fewer voters on average turnout
- \$120,000 - \$180,000 - **for general election** if no single candidate receives a majority of the vote

Andrea Miller  
Director of Finance  
City of Richmond