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**LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION**  
**N E W S**  
*...preserving the public trust*

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**EXPENDITURE CEILING LIFTED BY INDEPENDENT SPENDING  
IN RACES FOR COUNCIL DISTRICTS 9 AND 13**

The expenditure ceiling has been lifted in the races for City Council Districts 9 and 13 as a result of independent spending. The ceiling for City Council District 9 was lifted on Friday, February 24, and the ceiling for City Council District 13 was lifted on Sunday, February 26. Currently, the expenditure ceiling has been lifted in these races, the races for Council Districts 5 and 7, and the mayoral race.

Candidates who participate in the City's matching funds program agree to limit their campaign expenditures in both the primary and general elections. For the upcoming March 7 primary election, the expenditure ceiling for participating City Council candidates is \$498,000.

The expenditure ceiling in a particular race is lifted and no longer applies when independent spending in the race reaches a certain level. For City Council races, that level is currently \$80,000. Independent spending in the City Council District 9 race currently totals approximately \$195,192. The total independent spending in the City Council District 13 race is currently \$110,741.

Independent spending occurs when a person incurs certain costs for a communication that supports or opposes a candidate or ballot measure and the communication is not coordinated with or authorized by a candidate. In the 90 days prior to an election, a person must report independent spending and provide a copy of the communication to the Ethics Commission within 24 hours of making or incurring the costs.

To date, independent spending in all upcoming City elections has reached approximately \$873,519. In the upcoming Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education elections, independent spending exceeds \$4,405,849. Additional information about both independent spending and candidate spending in the 2017 elections, including disclosure reports and campaign communications, is available on the "campaign finance" page at [ethics.lacity.org](http://ethics.lacity.org).

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*The Ethics Commission was created by Los Angeles voters in 1990 to impartially administer and enforce the City's governmental ethics, campaign financing, and lobbying laws.*