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**LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION**  
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For Immediate Release: May 3, 2017

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**EXPENDITURE CEILING LIFTED BY INDEPENDENT SPENDING  
IN GENERAL ELECTION COUNCIL DISTRICT 7 RACE**

The expenditure ceiling was lifted today in the general election race for City Council District 7 as a result of independent spending. Currently, the expenditure ceiling has been lifted in both of the City Council races on the May 16 ballot.

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 general election, the expenditure ceiling for participating City Council candidates is \$415,000.

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 7 general election race currently totals approximately \$145,928.

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 the upcoming City Council general elections has reached nearly \$451,040. In the upcoming Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education elections, independent spending has reached approximately \$4,343,322. 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.*