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

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For Immediate Release: March 1, 2017

Contact: Lisa Ishimaru (213) 978-1960

**EXPENDITURE CEILING LIFTED BY  
INDEPENDENT SPENDING IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 RACE**

The expenditure ceiling was lifted yesterday, February 28, in the race for City Council District 1 as a result of independent spending. Currently, the expenditure ceiling has been lifted in the races for Council Districts 1, 5, 7, 9, and 13, 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 1 race currently totals over \$102,822.

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 nearly \$1,009,321. In the upcoming Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education elections, independent spending has reached approximately \$4,700,136. 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.*