INDEPENDENT SPENDING EXCEEDS $1.25 MILLION IN CITY COUNCIL RACES

Independent spending has surpassed $1.25 million in the races for the seven City Council seats that will appear on the March 8 ballot. Nearly $1.1 million has been spent in the Council District 8 race.

In District 8, nearly $83,000 has been spent to support and over $209,000 to oppose incumbent Bernard Parks. Over $770,000 has been spent to support and $20,000 to oppose one challenger, Forescee Hogan-Rowles, while $11,550 has been spent to oppose a second challenger, Jabari Jumaane.

Most of the independent spending in the Council District 8 race has been done by four groups: Working Californians to Support Forescee Hogan-Rowles for City Council 2011; the Los Angeles Police Protective League PAC; and the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor AFL-CIO and its sponsored committee, the Alliance to Support Forescee Hogan-Rowles for City Council 2011. Together, these entities have spent $992,843 to support Forescee Hogan-Rowles and oppose Bernard Parks and Jabari Jumaane.

In the other six Council District races, approximately $159,000 has been spent independently. Most of that independent spending has occurred in the race for Council District 14, in which nearly $89,000 has been spent to support incumbent Jose Huizar and more than $27,000 has been spent to support challenger Rudy Martinez.

Independent expenditures are expenditures of $1,000 or more that are made to support or oppose candidates or ballot measures and are not coordinated with a candidate or a candidate-controlled committee. There is no limit to the amount that may be spent independently. Los Angeles City Charter § 803(s)(1) requires independent expenditures to be reported within 24 hours of being made. For this reason, independent expenditure numbers may change and are updated on the Commission’s website daily.

For additional information about independent spending in the City Council races, please visit http://ethics.lacity.org/disclosure/campaign/search/public_ie_search.cfm, or contact the Commission at (213) 978-1960.

The City 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.