
LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION
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**EXPENDITURE CEILINGS LIFTED
BY INDEPENDENT SPENDING IN FOUR RACES**

Expenditure ceilings in four of the six City races on the May 21 ballot were lifted this week as a result of independent spending. The expenditure ceiling in the Mayor's race was lifted yesterday, and the expenditure ceilings in all three City Council races (Districts 1, 9, and 13) were lifted today.

Candidates who participate in the City's matching funds program agree to limit their campaign expenditures in both primary and general elections. For the upcoming general election, expenditures by participating City Council candidates are limited to \$400,000, and expenditures by participating Mayoral candidates are limited to \$2,237,000.

The expenditure ceiling in a particular race is lifted and no longer applies in either of two scenarios. One scenario occurs when independent spending in the race reaches certain threshold levels. The threshold is \$77,000 in a City Council race and \$309,000 in a Mayoral race. The expenditure ceiling can also be lifted when a candidate who is not participating in the matching funds program spends more than the expenditure ceiling in that race.

Independent expenditures are expenditures made for communications that support or oppose candidates or ballot measures but are not coordinated with or authorized by a candidate. During an election, independent expenditures must be reported to the Ethics Commission within 24 hours of being made. For additional information about independent spending in the 2013 elections, please visit ethics.lacity.org or contact the Ethics 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.