EXPENDITURE CEILING LIFTED IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 PRIMARY ELECTION

The expenditure ceiling was lifted today in the primary election race for City Council District (CD) 4 as a result of independent spending. Currently, independent spending in that race totals $114,782.

Candidates who participate in the City’s matching funds program must limit their campaign spending in both the primary and general elections. For the upcoming March 3 primary election, the expenditure ceiling for participating City Council candidates is $537,000. The expenditure ceiling is lifted and no longer applies in a particular race when independent spending reaches a certain threshold, which depends on the type of race. For a City Council race, the threshold is currently $86,000 spent in one election to support or oppose one candidate.

There are three candidates on the CD 4 primary election ballot: Sarah Kate Levy, Nithya Raman, and David E. Ryu. To date, independent spending in the amount of $114,199 has been reported in support of David E. Ryu, and independent spending in the amount of $583 has been reported in support of Nithya Raman. No independent expenditures have been reported to support or oppose Sarah Kate Levy.

Independent spending occurs when a person incurs certain costs for a political communication that supports or opposes a candidate or ballot measure and the communication is not coordinated with or authorized by a candidate. At this point in the 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.

Additional information about the candidates, independent spending, and political communications in the CD 4 primary election is available on the Election Totals page. Campaign activity and political communications may also be searched on the Public Data Portal.

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.