

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

RECORDER CLERK - REGISTRAR OF VOTERS - VETERANS AFFAIRS

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Impact Analysis

Consolidation of Lake Tahoe Community College District, Lake Tahoe Unified School District, South Lake Tahoe Public Utility District to occur with even-year general elections.

Change Request Description:

All three District Boards have submitted resolutions requesting to consolidate their odd-year district elections to be held in conjunction with state general elections in November of even-numbered years, E.C. 10404, 10404.5, 10405.7.

Purpose of Change:

The District Boards believe that voter participation would be greater, election costs lower, and election administration easier if there districts elections were held in conjunction with state general elections in November of even-numbered years. In odd-year elections these districts have the largest voting population in the South Lake Tahoe area, which require polling place vs. mail ballot precincts.

Table 1: Cost applied to each district

Election Cost			
Polling Place	11/2007	11/2009	11/2011
Lake Tahoe CCD	\$ 23,884.78	\$ 16,214.32	\$ 13,245.20
Lake Tahoe USD	\$ 23,884.78	\$ 15,819.56	\$ 13,964.74
South Lake Tahoe PUD	\$ 23,816.83	\$ 17,057.97	\$ 13,203.10

Impact on Consolidation:

History has proven that voter participation is greater in even-year elections. In 2007, 2009 and 2011, the highest voter participation was 30.1%. In 2008, 2010 and 2012, the lowest voter turnout was 54%.

Additionally, consolidating more districts with common boundaries in any given election can result in a greater the number of individual voting opportunities per ballot style. This can result in lower cost per voting opportunity thus reducing the total shared cost to each district.