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How it Works-The Local Civic Process Running for City Council

By Andrea A. Firth

Seven city council posts will be on the ballot as part of the November general election in Lamorinda-two in Lafayette, two in Moraga, and three in Orinda. Starting July 12th, individuals interested in running for city council can file a nomination petition with the City or Town Clerk. To be eligible, you must be 18 years or older, a U.S. citizen, a registered voter, and resident of the city or town. The timeframe for filing a petition runs through August 6th. There will be a five-day extension to file if no incumbent chooses to run.

All three jurisdictions provide candidates with the opportunity to submit a brief statement, 200 to 300 words depending upon the city or town, for inclusion in the voter pamphlet. There is an associated fee to cover the costs for printing and distribution, however, submitting a candidate statement is optional.

The length of a city council term across Lamorinda is four years, and there are no term limits. The current council members whose terms are expiring are: Don Tatzin and Brandt Andersson in Lafayette; Ken Chew and Dave Trotter in Moraga; and Tom McCormick, Sue Severson, and Amy Worth in Orinda. Additional details regarding the election and filing nomination paperwork can be addressed by the City and Town Clerks:

Lafayette-Joanne Robbins, JRobbins@lovelafayette.org; Moraga-Marty McInturf, mmcinturf@moraga.ca.us; Orinda-Michele Olsen, molsen@cityoforinda.org.

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