

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND CAMPAIGN ADVERTISEMENTS

City law regulates campaign contributions to local elected officials and candidates by:

- setting a \$500 limit on contributions;
- prohibiting contributions from corporations;
- prohibiting City contractors or those seeking a contract with the City from contributing to officials who approve those contracts during certain specified periods before and on and after a contract's approval; and
- prohibiting contributions from a lobbyist to an elected official, if the lobbyist is registered to lobby the official's agency or was registered to lobby that official's agency in the previous 90 days.

Campaign advertisements must disclose certain information about their funding, referred to as a "disclaimer." More specifically:

- Campaigns that support or oppose candidates but that do not coordinate their activities with a candidate ("independent campaigns"), and campaigns that support or oppose a local ballot measure, must disclose the campaigns' largest contributors in their advertisements. Starting on January 1, 2019, these advertisements must identify the campaigns' top three contributors who donated at least \$10,000.
- Campaign advertisements must include disclaimers that identify the campaign that paid for them. On most written advertisements, these disclaimers must appear in a specified size, and for audio and video advertisements, these disclaimers must be included in either spoken or written form.

This measure would expand limits on campaign contributions and expand disclaimer requirements for campaign advertisements.

Regarding campaign contributions, this measure would:

- extend the \$500 limit on contributions and the corporate contribution ban to all campaigns under the control of local elected officials and candidates, such as campaigns for or against ballot measures;
- prohibit contributions from limited liability companies or limited liability partnerships, to any local officials or candidates, or campaigns they control;
- prohibit contributions to an elected official from any client or employer of a lobbyist, if that lobbyist is registered to lobby the official's agency or was registered to lobby that official's agency in the previous 180 days; and
- prohibit contributions from persons with a designated financial interest in certain land use approval matters to members of the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor, the City Attorney, candidates for these offices, campaigns that they control, and independent campaigns that support or oppose their election. The prohibition would start when a request or application regarding a land use matter is pending before certain City boards and commissions, including the Board of Appeals, Board of Supervisors, Historic Preservation Commission, and Planning Commission. This prohibition would apply until 12 months after the land use matter concludes.

Regarding campaign advertisements, this measure would:

- require advertisements paid for by independent campaigns, and campaigns that support or oppose a ballot measure to identify their top five contributors who donated at least \$5,000 and the amount they contributed. If any of those contributors is another campaign, the

advertisement would also have to identify that other campaign's top three contributors who donated at least \$5,000 and the amount they contributed; and

- increase the size of some disclaimers and require them to appear on every page of some written advertisements, and specify when and how they should appear in certain audio and video advertisements.