

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Establish reporting requirements for political consultants (Ordinance; add Code Chapter 2.14).

Contact name: Jim Blackwood

Contact phone: (503) 823-3598

Presenter name: Jim Blackwood

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The City of Portland is committed to open, transparent and accountable government. The public has a right to know who is influencing important public policy decisions at the City. Increased transparency in decision-making serves the public interest.

Current City Code defines the role of registered lobbyists and establishes reporting requirements for lobbyists and City elected officials to capture their interactions. However, Political Consultants are not defined as a class and they are not subject to any disclosure requirement.

Working with the elected City Auditor, the City of Portland Elections Officer, and public interest organizations, Commissioner Fish has developed an ordinance which borrows from the reforms pioneered in San Francisco. This proposal is right-sized for Portland, building on the structure currently in place for lobbyists and keeping administrative costs to a minimum.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

The new reporting requirement largely mirrors the City's existing regulation of lobbyists, and implementing the proposed new Code is primarily a question of technological capacity. The Auditor estimates that administration of this new program will require less than \$10,000.

Community impacts and community involvement:

A variety of independent public interest groups were consulted about this proposal. They include Common Cause Oregon, the League of Women Voters of Portland, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Oregon, Represent Us, and Portland Alliance for Democracy.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

YES: Please complete the information below.

NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount

Amendments to Agenda Item No. 374
Adopted by City Council April 13, 2016

CITY ATTORNEY

187689

Amendment 1:

In Exhibit A, amend Subsection 2.14.020.C to read as follows:

C. "Political Consultant" means a person or entity that provides Political Consulting Services to a City elected official, ~~or a~~ successful candidate for elected office, or a successful candidate's principal campaign committee, registered with the Oregon Secretary of State. The term "Political Consultant" does not include attorneys who provide only legal services, accountants who provide only accounting services, professional fundraisers, or pollsters who provide only polling services. The term "Political Consultant" does not include a person who

1. Does not engage in Political Consulting Services as a trade or profession, or
2. Is a City employee.

Amendment 2:

Amend Ordinance Sec. 1, finding No. 5 to read as follows:

5. City elected officials, specifically the Mayor, ~~and~~ City Commissioners and the Auditor must uphold the public trust and confidence in government by being transparent in policy decisions.

In Exhibit A, amend Subsection 2.14.020.A to read as follows:

- A. "City elected official" means the Mayor, ~~or a~~ City Commissioners, or Auditor.

Amendment 3:

In Exhibit A, amend Subsection 2.14.070.A to read as follows:

- A. A City elected official shall not knowingly utilize a Political Consultant who ~~has violated~~ is in violation of this Chapter.

Amend Subsection 2.14.020.C to read as follows:

- C. "Political Consultant" means a person or entity that provides Political Consulting Services to a City elected official, ~~or a~~ successful candidate for elected office, or a successful candidate's principal campaign committee, registered with the Oregon Secretary of State. The term "Political Consultant" does not include attorneys who provide only legal services, accountants who provide only accounting services, professional fundraisers, or pollsters who provide only polling services. The term "Political Consultant" does not include a person who
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