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**CITY OF TEMPE**  
**REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Council Meeting Date: 11/12/2015**  
**Agenda Item: 6C6**

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**ACTION:** Hold the second and final public hearing to adopt an ordinance amending Tempe City Code, Chapter 13, City elections, Article II relating to Candidate Campaign Finance Reform. (Ordinance No. O2015.51)

**FISCAL IMPACT:** No fiscal impact.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt Ordinance No. O2015.51.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** This Code Text Amendment will provide new limitations for candidate contribution limits beginning with the 2018 Tempe City Council election cycle.

A City Manager Working Group was formed as authorized by the City Council to review Candidate Campaign Finance Reform for City of Tempe elections. As part of the Working Group, an Ordinance was proposed to regulate candidate campaign limitations. After meeting with stakeholder groups in two public meetings to receive feedback, the Ordinance includes the following:

- A \$500 limit per person per election cycle for individual contributions (current limit is \$6,250)
- A \$1,000 limit per election cycle for political parties
- A \$1,000 limit per election cycle for political committees or partnerships (current limit is \$6,250)
- A \$5,000 limit per election cycle for multicandidate political action committees (PACs) (current limit is \$12,500)
- A \$10,000 aggregate limit for contributions from political parties and political committees (currently no limit to the amounts that candidates can receive from political committees and a \$10,000 limit to the amount that the party nominee candidate can accept from political parties)
- A \$10,000 aggregate limit for contributions from PACs and multi-candidate PACs (currently no aggregate limit in the amounts that candidates can receive)
- Imposes civil penalties on the candidate if they have been found by the City Clerk to have violated the Ordinance. The civil penalty for violations is three (3) times the amount or value of the in violation of the Ordinance.
- Requires the civil penalty to be paid out of the candidate's personal monies.
- Requires that if a candidate knowingly accepts campaign contributions in excess of 150% of the limit that he or she is subject to Section 2.06 of the Tempe City Charter, Forfeiture of Office.

Since the introduction and first public hearing on October 22, 2015, the definition of "election cycle" has been clarified to reflect that an election cycle is for a particular office. In addition, reference to "PC" in the definition of "Political Committee" has been omitted for clarification; all references to Political Committee and Political Action Committee in the ordinance are designated as "PAC".

**ATTACHMENTS:** Ordinance, Public Comments

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