



City of Seattle

Ethics and Elections Commission

To: Commission
 From: Wayne Barnett
 Date: May 2, 2014
 Re: Staffing needs for 2015 election cycle

Year	City Council seats on ballot	City Council Candidates registered with the SEEC	Mayoral candidates registered with the SEEC	Total Candidates (includes Mayor and City Attorney)
2003	5	25		25
2005	4	13	7	21
2007	5	20		20
2009	4	26	12	40
2011	5	16		16
2013	4	11	11	23
Average	4.5	18.5	10	23.5
2015*	9	37		37

* *Projected*

In the transition to district elections, all nine City Council positions will appear on the ballot in 2015. As the above chart shows, staff *conservatively* anticipates the total number of candidates filing with the office to exceed the six-cycle average by almost 60 percent, with more candidates on the ballot than in any year except 2009. If the district system entices additional candidates to seek office, the number of candidates could be even higher.

Staff would like to seek funding to cover the costs associated with hiring a term-limited employee who could assist the staff with ensuring elections code compliance for the 2015 election cycle. Staff anticipates working with the Personnel Department to develop an appropriate salary range for the position. The hire would also be eligible for benefits.

The City's 2015 budget process is already underway. I would like guidance from the Commission on submitting paperwork to the Budget Office to get this process started.