

Ethics 101

Have you suddenly become very popular.....?

The Elections Code does prohibit City elected officials and candidates from soliciting campaign contributions from City employees or members of City boards and commissions.

Board and commission members may make unsolicited contributions, which would be reported in the regular manner by the campaign and therefore be public like all other contributions.

- **2.04.380 - Solicitation of contributions by elected officials, candidates or their agents.**

1.

No elected official, candidate, or an official's or candidate's agent may knowingly solicit, directly or indirectly, a contribution to an office fund created under [section 2.04.180](#), a candidate for public office, a political party, or a political committee from a City employee or any member of a City board or commission.

2.

This section shall not prohibit an Elected Official or a candidate from soliciting contributions from City employees if any of the following conditions apply, and the solicitation does not otherwise violate the provisions of this chapter:

- a. the solicitation is part of a general solicitation made to a significant segment of the public which may include, but does not target, City employees;
- b. the solicitation is part of a general solicitation made at a gathering that may include, but does not target, City employees;
- c. the solicitation is made to a City employee who, subsequent to the effective date of this ordinance, makes an unsolicited contribution to the elected official or candidate for public office, political party, or political committee making the solicitation;
- d. the solicitation is made to a City employee who expressly requests to be added to a mailing list from the elected official or candidate for public office, political party, or political committee; and
- e. any other similar circumstance as may be prescribed by rule by the Ethics and Elections Commission pursuant to [3.70.100](#)
- f.

3.

Nothing in this section prohibits a City employee from making a contribution to an elected Official or candidate, and nothing in this section prohibits an elected Official or candidate from accepting a contribution from a City employee.

(Ord. [123268](#), § 1, 2010; Ord. [123011](#), § 1, 2009.)