

**Questions received from Pre-Nomination Orientation Session
June 29, 2022**

1. Are candidate statements costs based on printing of district-based or city-wide publications of the voter information guides?

The cost of printing for candidate statements are established by Alameda County and will be assessed based upon the number of registered voters. Candidate statements for office of Mayor are city-wide and Council member statements are by district.

2. Use of "retired" as occupation on ballot designation?

A candidate may not use the word "retired" if that candidate possesses another more recent, intervening principal profession, vocation, or occupation. Subject to the provisions of Elections Code Section 13107, subdivision (b)(4), use of the word "retired" in a ballot designation is generally limited for use by individuals who have permanently given up their chosen principal profession, vocation or occupation.

3. When is a contribution considered received if using a third-party payment vendor? Is it when the vendor receives the payment or when the funds are transferred to a Committee's bank account?

Per FPPC, the date of contribution is when the transaction is received by the third-party vendor, not when funds are transferred to the Committee's bank account.

4. How soon can political signs be placed before the election?

The City of Pleasanton requests that political signs be placed no earlier than 45 days before the election (September 24, 2022).

5. What are the State’s limits for individual contributors?

The City of Pleasanton has enacted voluntary contribution and expenditure limits for candidates. See [Pleasanton Municipal Code Ordinance Chapter 1.22](#)

Note that State limits will apply for enforcement.

State limits on contributions for City candidates are described in the table below. See FPPC guidance: [AB 571 fact sheet](#).

2021-2022 Contribution Limits to State and Local* Candidates Per Election

Candidate or Officeholder	Contributor Sources		
	Person (individual, business entity, committee/PAC)	Small Contributor Committee (see definition below)	Political Party
City and County Candidates in Cities and Counties That Have Not Enacted Limits	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$4,900

*Beginning January 1, 2021, State campaign contribution limit will by default apply to city and county candidates when the city or county has not already enacted a contribution limit on such candidates.

Source: <https://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn/campaign-rules/state-contribution-limits.html>

FPPC provides advice by phone at 1-800-275-3772

or by e-mail at advice@fppc.ca.gov

6. If you have an open committee and are running for re-election, how do you use funds from old committee?

The City of Pleasanton has enacted voluntary contribution and expenditure limits for candidates. Note that State contribution limits and AB 571 will apply for enforcement. See FPPC guidance: [AB 571 fact sheet](#).

Open Committees of current office holders running for re-election.

Effective January 1, 2021, city and county candidates in jurisdictions that have not enacted campaign contribution limits can no longer redesignate their candidate controlled committees. A candidate must establish a separate controlled committee and campaign bank account when running for reelection. If they did not redesignate their committee before January 1, 2021, then they must open a separate bank account for their re-election for the 2022 office. For more information on candidates/officeholders and AB 571, view FPPC's [fact sheet](#).

Open Committees of current office holders running for re-election – transfer of funds.

Follow City's ordinance regarding aggregation rules which includes "last in, first out" (LIFO) or "first in, first out" (FIFO) instructions: [Pleasanton Municipal Code Ordinance Chapter 1.22](#). Note that the Act's rules are also still in play.

Re-election: If a candidate is seeking to transfer campaign funds from one candidate controlled committee to another for the same office, the candidate may carry over non-surplus campaign funds without attribution or without using the "last in, first out" (LIFO) or "first in, first out" (FIFO) accounting method. The funds must be in the new campaign bank account before they can be used for the reelection campaign. Candidates must follow local ordinances if otherwise stated.

If seeking a different office, these contributions transferred must be attributed and transferred using the "last in, first out" (LIFO) or "first in, first out" (FIFO) accounting method and shall not exceed the applicable contribution limit per contributor.

See FPPC guidance on termination requirements for committees subject to AB 571: [Regulation 18404.1](#)

When the committee has no net debts outstanding, the committee must be terminated within 24 months after the earliest of the date the candidate is defeated, leaves office, or the term of office for which the committee was formed ends, or, for withdrawn candidates no later than 24 months after the election from which the candidate withdrew.

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