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DATE: December 19, 2022

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council through City Manager

FROM: Kendall Sawyer, MPA, CMC, City Clerk

SUBJECT: Resolution Approving an Agreement with the County of Sonoma for the Purpose of Conducting Consolidated Municipal Elections for the City of Petaluma, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Said Agreement and Finding This Item is Not a “Project” Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5)

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution approving an agreement with the County of Sonoma for the purpose of conducting consolidated municipal elections for the City of Petaluma, and authorizing the City Manager to execute said agreement.

### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Petaluma contracts with Sonoma County to consolidate municipal elections. After each election, the City receives an invoice from the County for its portion of the election costs. This does not include the cost of candidate statements for Mayor and Council Member candidates. Those costs are covered by the candidates themselves. The City's current contract with Sonoma County will expire December 31, 2022. The new agreement will extend through December 31, 2023.

### **DISCUSSION**

There are no substantive changes from the current contract. The contract includes a few minor, non-substantive changes, as shown in red/underline/strikethrough, on the attached Exhibit A to the Resolution.

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

This agenda item appeared on the City's tentative agenda document on December 5, 2022 which was a publicly-noticed meeting.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The proposed action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), in that executing a contract for consolidated election services does not meet CEQA's definition of a "project," because the action does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and because this action constitutes organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

The cost of election services is included in the annual budget.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Draft Resolution with Exhibit A (Agreement)