



701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Law
To: City Council
From: City Manager & Staff
Council Meeting Date: January 5, 2026
Re: April 2025 Municipal Election
Impacted Ward: Multiple Wards

Executive Summary

An ordinance has been prepared to call the municipal election for April 7, 2026.

Discussion

Under the City Charter, a regular election for municipal officials is held every April. In April 2026, the election will be for council members for Wards 1 and 5. Each candidate for the Wards 1 and 5 positions must file a nominating petition signed by at least 50 but no more than 75 registered voters entitled to vote for the candidate. Nominating petitions for all candidates must be filed no later than January 13, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Fiscal impact unknown at this time as the cost is based on the various entities who have placed an item on the ballot for any particular election. In 2025, the City's proportionate share for the costs relating to the municipal election for Mayor and Wards 3 and 4 council members was \$89,396.15 with 14 entities having items on the ballot. In 2024, the City's proportionate share for the costs relating to the municipal election for Wards 2 and 6 council members, and recall of the Ward 1 council member, was \$30,265.02 with 17 entities having items on the ballot.

Long-Term Impact: Not applicable.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
	An ordinance is passed annually for the April municipal election.

Suggested Council Action

Passage of the ordinance.