



PRESS RELEASE

CITY OF LAGUNA NIGUEL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Laguna Niguel Accepting Individual Applications to Fill Existing City Council Vacancy

Laguna Niguel, CA – At the Tuesday, May 16, 2023, City Council Meeting, the Laguna Niguel City Council voted to fill the existing City Council vacancy (Sandy Rains resigned on May 10, 2023) through the appointment of an individual member of the community.

The City Council directed staff to initiate an application process similar to the recent City Council appointment process. The City Clerk's Office will coordinate the application process, with the application period opening on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, and closing at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 26, 2023. It is expected that the City Council will select applicants to be interviewed at the June 6, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting; followed by applicant interviews and the appointment of an individual to fill the City Council vacancy during a June 14, 2023, Special City Council Meeting.

During their discussion, the City Council considered the alternative option of calling for a special election to fill the vacancy; however, since there currently are no other state or local elections scheduled for November 7, 2023, the City would bear the full cost of such an election, costing the City between \$359,555 - \$654,752, depending on the voting method. Given the extreme cost of a stand-alone special election and the fact that the vacancy would remain until the results of the special election are certified, the City Council chose to move forward with appointment.

The individual that is ultimately appointed to fill the existing City Council vacancy will serve as a City Council Member for the remainder of the unexpired term through December 2024.

To be considered for appointment to the City Council, applicants must be at least 18 years of age, reside within the city limits of Laguna Niguel, and be registered to vote in the City of Laguna Niguel. Interested applicants must submit a fully completed application and a Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Form 700 – Statement of Economic Interests.

For more information and to access the 'Application for Appointment to the Laguna Niguel City Council' please visit www.cityoflagunaniquel.org/cityclerk.

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