

Election Committee Endorsement Procedure Non-Partisan Office

- 1) The endorsement & selection procedures will be available to registered Democrats upon request and will be published on the DPLC website.
- 2) These procedures can be modified as needed, but not during an active candidate filing period.
- 3) The Election Committee will determine what qualifications they are seeking in a candidate for office prior to the commencement of an election filing period. These qualifications must be relevant to the job the candidate will perform and include educational qualifications if appropriate (such as DA, Sheriff, or Judge), and will be published on the DPLC website.
- 4) The Election Committee and the DPLC will welcome and encourage diversity in their endorsements.
- 5) Procedure for candidate endorsement:
  - a) At the conclusion of the candidate filing period, the Chair of the Election Committee will contact the Lake County Registrar of Voters for a list of all registered Democrats who have filed to run for elected office in Lake County, CA. The Chair will also verify the number of days that each candidate has been registered as a Democrat.
  - b) Each Democratic candidate will be invited (via email) to submit an Application for Endorsement to the DPLC. This application's purpose is to determine a candidate's preparedness to run a successful campaign.
  - c) Candidates who submit an Application for Endorsement will be invited to an interview with the Election Committee members. Questions relevant to the position being sought will be determined in advance of candidate interviews, and all candidates seeking a particular office will be asked the same questions.
  - d) Oral interview questions will focus on a candidate's qualifications to assume the office they are seeking and will elicit responses that determine a candidate's commitment to democratic values.
  - e) Each candidate interviewed will be informed as to the rest of the endorsement process and when they will be notified about endorsement decisions.
  - f) After all candidates have been interviewed, the Election Committee will discuss each applicant's qualifications.
- 6) The Election Committee will then vote to recommend:
  - a) Endorsement of one candidate competing for a particular office, or multiple candidates if there are multiple positions open in an election (example, school board or City Council), but will not recommend endorsement for more candidates than there are open seats, **or**
  - b) Will put forth a recommendation to the DPLC make *No Endorsement* in a particular election.
  - c) A two-thirds majority is required to recommend endorsement. No secret ballots are allowed.
  - d) The Election Committee shall also recommend (to the DPLC) the amount of financial support to grant to endorsed candidates.

- 7) After the vote by the entire DPLC, the DPLC Chair will notify candidates of the results within 7 days of the vote.
  - a) For endorsed candidates, this letter will include a description of support that will be provided by the DPLC, including campaign contributions if applicable.
- 8) Endorsed candidates may subsequently request additional financial support but must provide a supporting rationale for their request.

Procedure adopted August 2, 2023