

MOTION

The decennial federal census is one of the most significant elements in the U.S. Constitution. Census data affects political representation at all levels of government and is the basis for the distribution of billions of dollars in federal funding. An accurate census is essential to ensure adequate political representation in Washington, D.C. and Sacramento, which will have large effects on funding for public safety, transportation, and economic development.


Although the next census will not occur until April 1, 2030, substantial planning regarding a multitude of technical issues is completed years in advance of the actual count. The U.S. Census Bureau must develop accurate address lists and geographic files so they can distribute census questionnaires to every person in the country and ensure responses. The Bureau must also evaluate jurisdictional boundaries, census tract boundaries, group quarter facilities, and streets, among other geographic identifiers, which takes considerable time and requires careful analysis and preparation.

The City should make every effort at this crucial early stage to ensure an accurate count in the 2030 decennial census. Work must begin quickly to ensure that complete and accurate address data is available to the Bureau, which will require integrating datasets located across all City departments that collect and manage address information. Advance planning is also needed to address future technical issues, as well as to prepare for the Complete Count Committee that will address public information and outreach needs leading up to 2030.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), City Attorney, and Mayor, to coordinate the City's preparations for the 2030 Decennial Census; and

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the Planning Department, Information Technology Agency, Housing Department, Police Department, Fire Department, City Clerk, Economic Workforce and Development Department, Department of Building and Safety, Bureau of Engineering, Department of Water and Power, and Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, to identify a departmental point person on Census 2030 issues and to develop a work program to address technical matters related to the 2030 Decennial Census, including funding requirements.

PRESENTED BY:


HUGO SOTO-MARTINEZ
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:




JAN 28 2026

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