

Hon. Paul D. López
Clerk and Recorder
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City and County of Denver

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October 26, 2020

Honorable Members of City Council,

It is my understanding that you will be asked to vote on CB 20-1194 tonight Monday, October 26, 2020. As currently written, this bill would divert the 2021 appropriation to the Fair Elections Fund (\$2.1 million) and authorize the repayment of about \$1.3 million over 2022 and 2023.

Unfortunately, this bill does not contain the proper and necessary safeguards that I identified in my letter dated October 20, 2020. As referenced in my October 22nd memorandum, my office's best forecast. This forecast, however, does not include administrative costs or any estimated run-off payments that would be made pursuant to § 15-57, DRMC which also requires strong consideration.

While every option must be considered to ensure the City has enough resources to serve its citizens, I urge you to oppose this ordinance as shortchanges the Fair Elections Fund and the successful administration of this program. Ethical elections governance and compliance is an essential function and the Fair Elections Fund will require the full \$8 million as originally intended and passed by the City Council and the people of Denver in 2018.

I will be unable to attend Monday's meeting due to my responsibilities with the 2020 Presidential Election, but I have instructed members of my staff to virtually attend the meeting in case you have any questions.

In Solidarity,

Hon. Paul D. López, Clerk and Recorder
City & County of Denver

Cc: Hon. Michael B. Hancock, Mayor