# City of Garden Grove

#### INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To:

Matthew J. Fertal

From:

Thomas F. Nixon

Dept:

City Manager

Dept:

City Attorney

Subject:

POTENTIAL BALLOT MEASURE FOR

Date:

July 29, 2008

**VOTE OF ELECTORATE ON TERM** LIMITS MODIFICATION; AND RESOLUTIONS TO PLACE MATTER

ON BALLOT

### **OBJECTIVE**

To provide for City Council consideration a ballot measure which, if approved by a vote of the electorate, would provide that a Council Member who has served two consecutive terms may return to the position of Council Member in two years, instead of the currently mandated four year period.

### BACKGROUND

In 1996, the voters of the City of Garden Grove approved term limits which provide, in part, that a City Council Member who has served two consecutive four-year terms is ineligible to serve additional time as a Council Member until that person has sat out one full Council Member term. Modification of the term limits ordinance requires voter approval.

## DISCUSSION

The attached draft ordinance would amend the City's current term limits ordinance by providing that a Council Member who has served two consecutive terms would be eligible to return as a Council Member after being off the City Council for two years, instead of the current four year requirement. The draft also provides non-substantive clarification as to the calculation of the two-year period.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

It is anticipated that the cost of adding this matter to the November 4, 2008 ballot would be approximately \$8,765.00.

POTENTIAL BALLOT MEASURE FOR VOTE OF ELECTORATE ON TERM LIMITS MODIFICATION; AND RESOLUTIONS TO PLACE MATTER ON BALLOT July 29, 2008
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### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council consider whether the draft ordinance should be placed on the November 4, 2008 ballot for a vote by the electorate.

If the City Council determines that the matter should be placed on the ballot, it is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached resolutions and direct staff to take the steps necessary to place this matter on the ballot, including soliciting ballot arguments regarding the measure.

THOMAS F. NIXON DA

City Attorney

Attachment A: Draft Ordinance

Attachment B: Draft Election Resolutions

Attachment C: Current Term Limits Ordinance

Approved for Agenda Listing

Matthew) Fertal City Manager