

Item 13 - Disclosure Report



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TO: Public Ethics Commission
FROM: Suzanne Doran, Acting Executive Director/Lead Analyst
Jelani Killings, Ethics Analyst
DATE: July 29, 2022
RE: Disclosure and Engagement Monthly Report for the August 10, 2022, Meeting

This memorandum provides a summary of major accomplishments in the Public Ethics Commission's (PEC or Commission) Disclosure and Engagement program activities since the last monthly meeting. Commission staff disclosure activities focus on improving online tools for public access to local campaign finance and other disclosure data, enhancing compliance with disclosure rules, and conducting data analysis for PEC projects and programs as required. Engagement activities include training and resources provided to the regulated community, as well as general outreach to Oakland residents to raise awareness of the Commission's role and services and to provide opportunities for dialogue between the Commission and community members.

Compliance with Disclosure Requirements

Campaign finance disclosure – Mid-July marked the beginning of the nominations process for the eight local positions on Oakland's November 8 ballot. Thirty-four candidates have now submitted statements of intent to run for office, and 20 have registered campaign committees. August 1 marks the campaign finance deadline for all registered committees, 69 in total, with activity between January 1 and June 30. All Oakland-registered committees received deadline notifications, and staff is reaching out to new committees to ensure they are prepared to file their reports electronically.

Campaign statements are available to view and download at the PEC's [Public Portal for Campaign Finance Disclosure](#).

Lobbyist disclosure – The Oakland Lobbyist Registration Act (LRA) requires lobbyists to submit quarterly reports disclosing their lobbying activities to ensure that the public knows who is trying to influence City decisions.

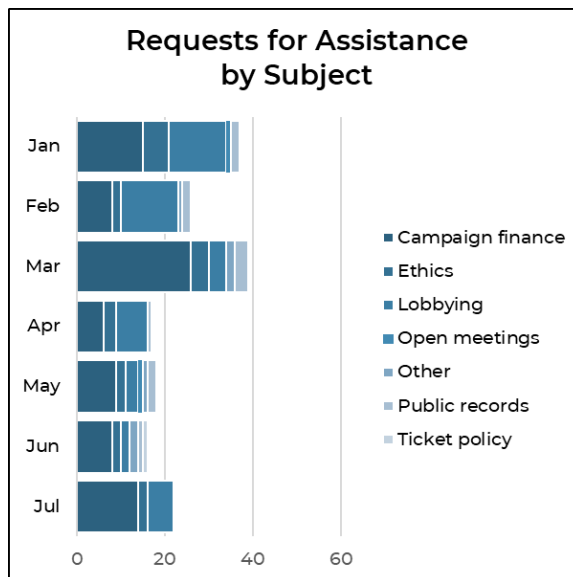
July 30 is the deadline for quarterly lobbyist activity reports covering the period from April 1 through June 30, 2022. An up-to-date list of registered lobbyists and lobbyist activity reports with links to view and download individual reports is available at the PEC's [Lobbyist Dashboard and Data](#) webpage.

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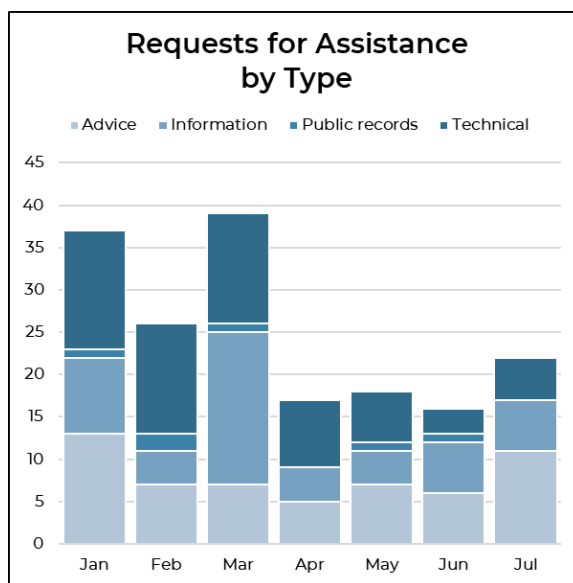
Advice and Engagement

Advice and Technical Assistance – In June and July, Commission staff responded to 38 requests for information, advice or assistance regarding campaign finance, ethics, Sunshine law, or lobbyist issues, for a total of 177 requests in 2022.

Candidates and Campaigns – In June, staff updated the PEC’s candidate and treasurer training page with links to an on-demand recording of the live training and supplemental materials. In addition, campaign treasurers who complete the training and pass a post-training quiz will be posted on the Commission website as a resource for candidates.



The nomination period for candidates seeking to qualify for the November 2022 ballot commenced on July 18 and ends on August 12. Commission staff provided the Office of the City Clerk with materials to include with the candidate nomination packet including our candidate checklist and LPF Program informational flyer.



New Employee Orientation – Staff continues to make presentations at the City’s monthly New Employee Orientation (NEO) providing new employees with an introduction to the PEC and overview of the Government Ethics Act (GEA). In June and July, staff trained over 60 new employees on GEA provisions.

Ticket Distribution Policy – In June, Commission staff met with Council staff and the IT Department to collaborate on modifications to the online Ticket Distribution Report system to conform with the requirements of the new policy and plan for implementation.

In July, Staff sent out an advisory to all elected officials informing them of the new policy and key changes that they need to be aware of. In addition, Staff created a training and offered to meet with City staff in each elected office to go over implementation of the new policy. On July 20, Staff met with and trained City staff in the Mayor’s office about the new ticket distribution rules.

Political Activity Advisory – In July, Staff sent a citywide advisory to employees as a reminder about campaign rules for officeholders and City staff. The advisory covered key provisions

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including misuse of City resources, mandatory reporting for City officials who solicit campaign contributions, and ballot measure activities. The advisory also included a link to a joint FAQ from the PEC and City Attorney's Office.

Contractors – In July, Commission staff started outreach to raise awareness of the contractor ban on campaign contributions. Staff met with representatives of non-profits that provide services through contracts with the City of Oakland to answer questions about the contractor ban and explore ways to better reach this segment of the regulated community. Staff is developing outreach and training materials for targeted outreach.

Online Engagement

Social Media – Each month Commission staff post social media content to highlight specific PEC policy areas, activities, or client-groups. In June and July, our posts highlighted upcoming campaign finance and lobbyist disclosure deadlines, disclosure data resources, and training resources for candidates and treasurers.