



Oxnard Government Accountability and Ethics Act *Frequently Asked Questions & Answers*

Q: What is the issue?

A: The City recently commissioned an independent Resident Satisfaction and Community Priorities Survey, which showed public interest in institutionalizing good government accountability and transparency provisions. Following the review of the results, city staff have recommended a broad-sweeping City Hall accountability and ethics measure for placement on the March ballot called the Oxnard Government Accountability and Ethics Act.

Q: What provisions are included in this Act?

A: The provisions outlined in the Oxnard Government Accountability and Ethics Act, include:

- 1.) Prohibiting councilmembers and commissioners from accepting gifts from lobbyists and contractors;
- 2.) Eliminating the influence of outside special interests by strengthening campaign finance reforms limiting political contributions to Mayoral and City Council candidates;
- 3.) Expanding transparency by posting the City's monthly financial reporting and City contracts on the City website; and
- 4.) Establishing term limits for the Mayor and members of the City Council.

Q: How does this make City government more accountable and transparent?

A: The City of Oxnard is committed to building confidence in its efforts to maintain strong public ethics and transparency. All of the provisions to be institutionalized by this Act serve to continue to earn the community's trust and confidence in City practices. Each of the proposed provisions serve a purpose; from increasing transparency by having City finance and contracts posted monthly for public review to increasing accountability by eliminating outside interests from influencing local City officials, by strengthening contribution limits for mayor and city council candidates, and prohibiting councilmembers and planning commissioners from accepting gifts from lobbyists and contractors.

Q: Does this give the City more power?

A: No, this does not give the City any additional powers, but simply institutionalizes increased ethics, transparency, and fiscally responsible practices while seeking to eliminate special interest influence.

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: For more information, please visit our website at www.oxnard.org.