



TO: Councilwoman Kate Silvas
FROM: Felix Arambula III, Ethics Compliance Officer
DATE: June 10, 2019
SUBJECT: Advisory Opinion (AO) 2019-002 for AO Request 2

You requested on AO on the following:

Advisory Opinion Request Two: Section 2-436 of the Code of Ordinances also contains the following prohibition:

(a) Political activity prohibited. No city facility or equipment shall be used, either directly or indirectly, for any political activity including, but not limited to, any activity to further the election or defeat of any candidate for public office or for any activity undertaken to influence the passage, defeat or final content of local, state or federal legislation. (b) An exception to this restriction is granted for "Meet the Candidates" events, providing all candidates are invited and given an equal opportunity to address the audience.

Under the provision above, could I, as a member of City Council, a member of my family or member(s) of the general public use the City's physical facilities and broadcast equipment to host and transmit a celebration of my service to the City? Would the answer change if I intended to be a candidate in the subsequent municipal election?

Opinion

The scope of this question is outside the jurisdiction of the Ethics Ordinance and an opinion cannot be provided at this time.