



Local Ballot Measure: C

Impartial Analysis of Measure C

City of Pacific Grove Ballot Measure Increasing the Monthly Compensation for the Mayor and Council Members

On February 18, 2026, the City of Pacific Grove (“City”) City Council voted to place a measure (“Measure C”) on the ballot. If approved, Measure C would serve to increase the monthly compensation for the Mayor and Council Members, and to permit the Mayor and Council Members to waive their monthly compensation in whole or in part.

In 1989, the City Council set the compensation for the Mayor at \$500 per month, and compensation for Council Members at \$300 per month. In 1998, the City Council increased the compensation for the Mayor to \$700 per month, and increased the compensation for Council Members to \$420 per month. Mayor and Council Member compensation has not been increased since 1998.

Government Code section 36516(a)(4)(A) allows a city to enact an ordinance to increase the compensation for city council members to an amount equal to five percent for each calendar year from the operative date of the last adjustment to compensation. Government Code section 36516.1 provides that a mayor may be provided with compensation in addition to that which he or she receives as a council member. Measure C would increase the monthly compensation for the Mayor to \$1,645 per month, and increase the monthly compensation for Council Members to \$987 per month. Measure C finds these increases are consistent with applying the five percent per year formula from December 1998 through December 2025. Measure C would not provide any benefits other than the increased compensation.

Currently, the Mayor and Council Members may waive all of their compensation, but not waive it in part. Measure C would allow the Mayor and Council Members to waive compensation in whole or in part.

Measure C provides that the City Council may not adopt an ordinance amending Measure C before January 1, 2031, unless the City Charter, as it may be amended from time to time, permits an earlier amendment. Otherwise, until such time, Measure C may be amended or repealed only by the voters of the City of Pacific Grove.

A “yes” vote on Measure C would serve to increase the monthly compensation for the Mayor and Council Members, and allow them to waive their compensation in whole or in part.

A “no” vote would serve to leave Mayor and Council Member compensation as it has been since 1998.

Measure C would become effective on the date the City Council declares that a majority of the voters of the City of Pacific Grove have approved it, and would go into effect 10 days after that date.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure C. If you desire a full copy of the measure, it is available on the City of Pacific Grove website at www.cityofpacificgrove.gov/our_city/city_cityclerk/index.php, or please call the City Clerk’s Office at 831-648-3181 and a copy will be mailed to you at no cost to you.