Orange County Cities

Mayor Selection Process

City	Council Elected by District Y/N	Mayor Directly Elected At-Large Y/N	Mayor & Mayor Pro Tem Selection Method
Aliso Viejo	N	N	The City's Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem are selected at the first meeting of each December to serve a one-year term beginning January 1. These positions are filled by sitting Council Members by a vote of the majority of members
Anaheim	Y	Y	Mayor elected at-large and Mayor Pro Tem selected by City Council
Brea	N	N	Each year, the council elects one of its members to serve a one-year term as Mayor. Mayor Pro Tem is selected in the same manner
Buena Park	Y	N	The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem shall serve one year terms, the selection is generally made at the first meeting in December of each year. Any Council Member desiring to be elected Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem (or who desires not to be considered for election to either position) should inform the other members of the City Council. The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem are peers of and serve at the pleasure of the other City Council Members. The City does not have a directly-elected Mayor; each year the five council members select one of their own to serve as Mayor.
Costa Mesa	Y	Y	Mayor is directly elected, <i>Mayor pro tem</i> . At the meeting at which the declaration of the municipal election results and the installation of the new elected officers is made pursuant to Sections 10262 and 10264 of the Elections Code, following the declaration of the election results, the city council shall meet and shall elect one of its members as mayor pro tempore , who shall serve in such capacity for a period of two (2) years from the date of appointment.

Cypress	N	N	By the affirmative votes of not less than three Councilmen, the Council shall elect one of its members as Mayor and one of its members as Mayor Pro Tempore
Dana Point	Y	N	Each year, the Council elects one of its members to serve as Mayor and one as Mayor Pro Tem for a one-year term
Fountain Valley	N	N	The offices of mayor and mayor pro tempore shall have one-year terms and shall be filled in accordance with the following rotation procedure :
			(1) The councilmember who has the longest consecutive council service since his or her last election or last service as mayor, whichever is longer, should become the mayor.
			(2) In the event that two councilmembers have the same length of service as described in subsection (b)(1) of this section, the one having received the greatest number of votes in the last councilmember's election should become mayor. If any person declines his or her term as it comes by in rotation, that person should remain in the same place in the rotation cycle as if he or she had served.
			(3) Notwithstanding the rotation provided for in this section, the selection of the mayor and mayor pro tempore shall ultimately be at the discretion of the city council, which shall make its selection with at least four councilmembers present. Selection shall be made by a nomination from a councilmember, seconded by another councilmember, after which a vote is taken by the entire city council. This procedure shall be repeated until at least three votes have been given to one nominee. The city council, by vote with at least four members present, may remove a person from the office of mayor or mayor pro tempore at any time for any reason.
Fullerton	Y	N	
Garden Grove	Y	Y	Mayor elected at large (2 year term). No mention of how Mayor Pro Tem is selected
Huntington Beach	N	N	At the Council meeting at which any council member is installed following any general or special municipal election, and at any time when there is a vacancy in the office of Mayor, the City Council shall meet and shall elect one of its members as its presiding officer, who shall have the title of Mayor. The Mayor shall serve in such capacity at the pleasure of the City Council. The City Council shall also designate one of its members as Mayor Pro Tempore (MPT), who shall serve in such capacity at the pleasure of the City Council. Selection of MPT

			per Resolution No. 6320, with member having longest consecutive service, tie breaker to member receiving most amount of votes in election to Council.
Irvine	N	Y	Mayor elected at-large. The City Council shall choose one of its members as Vice Mayor , and one of its members as Interim Mayor , at the same meeting at which the City Council election results are certified in even-numbered years, and at its first regular meeting in December of odd-numbered years.
La Habra	N	N	The members of the City Council are elected on an at-large basis to four-year terms. There are no term limits. Each year, the members of the City Council choose one member to serve as Mayor and one member to serve as Mayor Pro Tem. The Mayor and the City Council are non-partisan.
La Palma	N	N	Annually, the City Council appoints a Mayor and a Mayor Pro Tem from its own membership to serve a one-year term.
Laguna Beach	N	N	Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem selected by the City Council.
Laguna Hills	N	N	The City of Laguna Hills is a General Law City that operates under the Council/Manager form of government. The voters elect five Laguna Hills residents to the City Council for overlapping four-year terms. The Council, in turn, selects one of its members to serve as Mayor for a one-year term. No mention of Mayor Pro Tem selection process.
Laguna Niguel	N	N	The City Council consists of five (5) members, elected from the City at-large, who serve four year staggered terms. Annually, the City Council appoints a Mayor and a Mayor Pro Tem from its own membership to serve a one-year term.
Laguna Woods	N	N	The five members of the City Council are residents of Laguna Woods who are elected by registered voters to four-year terms. Elections occur "at-large" (citywide) in even-numbered years with two and then three members of the City Council elected at subsequent elections. All five offices are nonpartisan. The City Council appoints a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem from amongst its membership to preside over City Council meetings, execute certain legal instruments and authorizations, and attend to various representative and ceremonial matters.

Lake Forest	Y	N	The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem are selected by a vote of their peers annually at the first City Council meeting in December, to serve the following calendar year. The City Council members are non-partisan.
Los Alamitos	N	N	The City Council is the legislative body of the City and is composed of five (5) members who serve at large and are elected by the registered voters of the City of Los Alamitos. Annually, at the first regularly scheduled City Council meeting in December, the City Council shall elect a Member of the City Council to serve as Mayor. Immediately after the mayoral election, the newly elected Mayor shall conduct a City Council election to select a Mayor Pro Tempore .
Mission Viejo	N	N	At the last regular City Council Meeting in December of each year, the City Council shall select from among its members a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore to serve for the following year. The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore shall take office on January 1 of each year. The term of office for the Mayor and the Mayor Pro Tempore shall be a calendar year from January 1 through December 31.
Newport Beach	Y	N	On the date of any meeting of the City Council at which time the Council receives the certification of the results of any general or special municipal election at which any member of council is elected, the City Council shall, after swearing and qualifying any newly elected member, elect one of its members as its presiding officer, who shall have the title of Mayor. The City Council shall at the same time the Mayor is elected also designate one of its members as Mayor Pro Tempore , who shall serve in such capacity at the pleasure of the City Council.
Orange	Y	Y	On November 12, 2019, the Orange City Council adopted Ordinance No. 06-19 moving the City from at-large to district-based elections. The election of November 3, 2020, will be the first conducted in the by-district system. In by-district elections, the City is divided into Council districts. Each voter resides within one of those districts, and participates in the election of one City Council member who must also reside in and be a registered voter of that district. The Mayor, City Clerk, and City Treasurer are elected at large. Mayor Pro Tem is selected by the City Council.
Placentia	Y	N	At the meeting at which the City Council approves the certification of election results following any general or special municipal election at which members of the City Council are elected, and at any time when there is a vacancy in the office of Mayor, the City Council shall meet and shall

			elect one of its members as its presiding officer, who shall have the Title of Mayor. The City Council shall also designate one of its members as Mayor Pro Tempore who shall serve in such capacity at the pleasure of the City Council.
Rancho Santa Margarita	N	N	The City Council is elected at large by the voters of Rancho Santa Margarita. The council member terms are also established to stagger. In turn, the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore are selected from amongst their peers on an annual basis.
San Clemente	N	N	Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem selected by City Council
San Juan Capistrano	Y	N	The City's Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem are selected at the first meeting of each December to serve a one-year term. These positions are filled by sitting Council Members by a vote of the majority of members.
Santa Ana	Y (Wards)	Y	The Santa Ana City Council is composed of seven members consisting of the Mayor and six Councilmembers. Councilmembers are nominated from one of six geographic wards in the City and then elected citywide. The City Councilmembers serve a four-year term and are limited to three consecutive terms. The Mayor is directly elected at-large and has term limits of no more than four (4) two-year terms. Mayor Pro Tem is nominated and elected from amongst the seated council.
Seal Beach	Y	N	The Seal Beach City Council is comprised of five council districts. Each Council Member is elected by the voters of the District that they represent. Seal Beach's mayor is selected annually from among the City Council Members and is charged with running the City Council meetings and representing the City throughout the community and region. The Council also elects a member to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore .
Stanton	Y	Y	The City of Stanton operates under a Council/Manager form of government. The governing body of the City consists of five Stanton residents. The City Council is made up of Stanton's mayor, who is elected at large, and four City Council members elected by voters in their districts , who serve a four-year term of office. Elections are held in November of even-numbered years. Mayor Pro Tem is selected by City Council.

Tustin	N	N	City Council members are elected at-large to a four-year term. Council Members serve staggered terms with two or three seats alternately expiring every two years, with a maximum of two consecutive four-year terms. Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem selected by City Council.
Villa Park	N	N	Villa Park is governed by a five-member City Council. Every even-numbered year, either two or three members are elected by the voters at large for a four-year term. Council Members can only serve two full terms. Selection of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem is determined by the City Council each year.
Westminster	Y	Y	Residency in Districts. Each member of the city council, except the directly elected mayor , must be a resident of the council district from which the member is nominated at the time the member is nominated, elected, and throughout that member's term of office. The city is hereby divided into four districts, as set forth herein. Candidates for council seats in each district shall be nominated and elected only by the voters of that district and shall reside in that district. Mayor Pro Tem selected by City Council.
Yorba Linda	N	N	The City Council is the legislative body for the City of Yorba Linda. It is comprised of five Yorba Linda residents who are elected for a four-year term. Each year, the City Council Members elect one member to serve as Mayor. The Mayor presides over the meetings and represents the City at various functions. A Mayor Pro Tem is also selected to serve in the absence of the Mayor. Each Council Member is able to serve a maximum of three four-year terms.