## Orange County Cities

## Mayor Selection Process

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

$\left.\begin{array}{|c|c|c|l|l|}\hline \text { Cypress } & \text { N } & \text { N } & \begin{array}{l}\text { By the affirmative votes of not less than three Councilmen, the Council shall elect one of its } \\ \text { members as Mayor and one of its members as Mayor Pro Tempore }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { Dana Point } & \mathbf{Y} & \mathbf{N} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Each year, the Council elects one of its members to serve as Mayor and one as Mayor Pro Tem } \\ \text { for a one-year term }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { Fountain Valley } & \mathbf{N} & \mathbf{N} & \begin{array}{l}\text { The offices of mayor and mayor pro tempore shall have one-year terms and shall be filled in } \\ \text { accordance with the following rotation procedure: } \\ \text { (1) The councilmember who has the longest consecutive council service since his or her last } \\ \text { election or last service as mayor, whichever is longer, should become the mayor. } \\ \text { (2) In the event that two councilmembers have the same length of service as described in } \\ \text { subsection (b)(1) of this section, the one having received the greatest number of votes in the last } \\ \text { councilmember's election should become mayor. If any person declines his or her term as it } \\ \text { comes by in rotation, that person should remain in the same place in the rotation cycle as if he } \\ \text { or she had served. } \\ \text { (3) Notwithstanding the rotation provided for in this section, the selection of the mayor and }\end{array} \\ \text { mayor pro tempore shall ultimately be at the discretion of the city council, which shall make } \\ \text { its selection with at least four councilmembers present. Selection shall be made by a nomination } \\ \text { froma councilmember, seconded by another councilmember, after which a vote is taken by the } \\ \text { entire city council. This procedure shall be repeated until at least three votes have been given to } \\ \text { one nominee. The city council, by vote with at least four members present, may remove a person } \\ \text { from the office of mayor or mayor pro tempore at any time for any reason. }\end{array}\right\}$

|  |  |  | per Resolution No. 6320, with member having longest consecutive service, tie breaker to <br> member receiving most amount of votes in election to Council. |
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| Irvine | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{Y}$ | Mayor elected at-large. The City Council shall choose one of its members as Vice Mayor, and <br> one of its members as Interim Mayor, at the same meeting at which the City Council election <br> results are certified in even-numbered years, and at its first regular meeting in December of <br> odd-numbered years. |
| La Habra | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | The members of the City Council are elected on an at-large basis to four-year terms. There are <br> no term limits. Each year, the members of the City Council choose one member to serve as <br> Mayor and one member to serve as Mayor Pro Tem. The Mayor and the City Council are non- <br> partisan. |
| La Palma | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | Annually, the City Council appoints a Mayor and a Mayor Pro Tem from its own membership <br> to serve a one-year term. |
| Laguna Beach | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem selected by the City Council. <br> Laguna Hills$\quad \mathbf{N}$ |
| $\mathbf{N}$ |  | The City of Laguna Hills is a General Law City that operates under the Council/Manager form <br> of government. The voters elect five Laguna Hills residents to the City Council for overlapping <br> four-year terms. The Council, in turn, selects one of its members to serve as Mayor for a one- <br> year term. No mention of Mayor Pro Tem selection process. |  |
| Laguna Niguel | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | The City Council consists of five (5) members, elected from the City at-large, who serve four <br> year staggered terms. Annually, the City Council appoints a Mayor and a Mayor Pro Tem from <br> its own membership to serve a one-year term. |
| Laguna Woods | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | The five members of the City Council are residents of Laguna Woods who are elected by <br> registered voters to four-year terms. Elections occur "at-large" (citywide) in even-numbered <br> years with two and then three members of the City Council elected at subsequent elections. All <br> five offices are nonpartisan. The City Council appoints a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem from <br> amongst its membership to preside over City Council meetings, execute certain legal <br> 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 <br> Council meeting in December, to serve the following calendar year. The City Council members <br> are non-partisan. |
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| Los Alamitos | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | The City Council is the legislative body of the City and is composed of five (5) members who <br> serve at large and are elected by the registered voters of the City of Los Alamitos. Annually, at <br> the first regularly scheduled City Council meeting in December, the City Council shall elect a <br> Member of the City Council to serve as Mayor. Immediately after the mayoral election, the <br> newly elected Mayor shall conduct a City Council election to select a Mayor Pro Tempore. |
| Mission Viejo | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | At the last regular City Council Meeting in December of each year, the City Council shall select <br> from among its members a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore to serve for the following year. <br> The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore shall take office on January 1 of each year. The term of <br> office for the Mayor and the Mayor Pro Tempore shall be a calendar year from January 1 through <br> December 31. |
| Newport Beach | $\mathbf{Y}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | On the date of any meeting of the City Council at which time the Council receives the <br> certification of the results of any general or special municipal election at which any member of <br> council is elected, the City Council shall, after swearing and qualifying any newly elected <br> member, elect one of its members as its presiding officer, who shall have the title of Mayor. The <br> City Council shall at the same time the Mayor is elected also designate one of its members as <br> Mayor Pro Tempore, who shall serve in such capacity at the pleasure of the City Council. |
| Orange | $\mathbf{Y}$ | $\mathbf{Y}$ | On November 12, 2019, the Orange City Council adopted Ordinance No. 06-19 moving the City <br> from at-large to district-based elections. The election of November 3, 2020, will be the first <br> conducted in the by-district system. In by-district elections, the City is divided into Council <br> districts. Each voter resides within one of those districts, and participates in the election of one <br> City Council member who must also reside in and be a registered voter of that district. The <br> Mayor, City Clerk, and City Treasurer are elected at large. Mayor Pro Tem is selected by <br> the City Council. |
| Placentia | $\mathbf{Y}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | At the meeting at which the City Council approves the certification of election results following <br> any general or special municipal election at which members of the City Council are elected, and <br> 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 <br> Council shall also designate one of its members as Mayor <br> Pro Tempore who shall serve in such capacity at the pleasure of the City Council. |
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| Rancho Santa <br> Margarita | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | The City Council is elected at large by the voters of Rancho Santa Margarita. The council <br> member terms are also established to stagger. In turn, the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore are <br> selected from amongst their peers on an annual basis. |
| San Clemente | N | $\mathbf{N}$ | Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem selected by City Council |
| San Juan Capistrano | $\mathbf{Y}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | The City's Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem are selected at the first meeting of each December to <br> serve a one-year term. These positions are filled by sitting Council Members by a vote of the <br> majority of members. |
| Santa Ana | (Wards) | Y | The Santa Ana City Council is composed of seven members consisting of the Mayor and six <br> Councilmembers. Councilmembers are nominated from one of six geographic wards in the City <br> and then elected citywide. The City Councilmembers serve a four-year term and are limited to <br> three consecutive terms. The Mayor is directly elected at-large and has term limits of no <br> more than four (4) two-year terms. Mayor Pro Tem is nominated and elected from amongst <br> the seated council. |
| Seal Beach | Y | N | The Seal Beach City Council is comprised of five council districts. Each Council Member is <br> elected by the voters of the District that they represent. Seal Beach’s mayor is selected annually <br> from among the City Council Members and is charged with running the City Council meetings <br> and representing the City throughout the community and region. The Council also elects a <br> member to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. |
| Stanton | Y | Y | The City of Stanton operates under a Council/Manager form of government. The governing <br> body of the City consists of five Stanton residents. The City Council is made up of Stanton's <br> mayor, who is elected at large, and four City Council members elected by voters in their <br> districts, who serve a four-year term of office. Elections are held in November of even- <br> numbered years. Mayor Pro Tem is selected by City Council. |


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

