

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 7, 2025

Contact: Luke Coletti

(831) 238-0714

info@transparentpg.org

<https://transparentpg.org>

Referendum Against Ordinance 25-007

Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Pacific Grove Increasing the Compensation of the Mayor and City Councilmembers.

PACIFIC GROVE, CA (Aug. 7, 2025) – On July 1, 2025, Transparent Pacific Grove [filed](#) our referendum petition with 1,693 valid signers, confirmed by us using the most recent voter data. This represents 160% of the required 1,060 signatures in just three weeks. On August 6, 2025, Monterey County Elections [certified](#) our petition. The ordinance (compensation increase) never went into effect and remains suspended.

The certificate of sufficiency will now go to the City Council. They have two options:

- 1) Repeal the ordinance.
- 2) Submit the ordinance to the voters.

If the City Council chooses Option 1, then the ordinance is defeated, and a similar ordinance cannot be enacted for at least one year.

If the City Council chooses Option 2, the ordinance will be submitted to the voters at the next regular municipal election (November 3, 2026) or a special election. Should the voters reject the ordinance, then a similar ordinance cannot be enacted for at least one year after the election. (see Elections Code Section [9241](#))

Special elections are *very* expensive. The City's last special election ([Measure A, 2022](#)) cost \$125,000. Placing the question on a regular municipal election ballot [will only cost \\$5-10k](#). The City Council is almost always misled and told a much higher cost, which they then use to justify their NO vote.

We don't want a special election, and we also don't favor Option 1. We brought the referendum forward to **"Let the Voters Decide,"** and that's clearly what they want. To deprive the voters of this would be a betrayal.

A vote of the people is the most definitive and effective way of settling this. This is what the City Council should have done in the first place. They voted not to, and we responded.

It was a fantastic experience joining forces with voters to challenge this self-serving ordinance. There hasn't been a successful referendum in Pacific Grove since 1981. We Thank You!

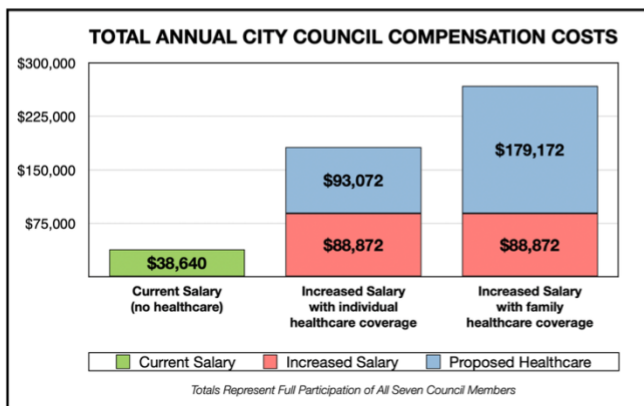
Petition Verification Summary

(Note: not all of our signatures were counted; verification concluded after the 1,060 threshold was met)

Signatures Submitted	Signatures Verified	Valid Signatures	Invalid Signatures	Validity Rate
1,839	1,299	1,178	121	91%

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Sign the Referendum Petition



The Mayor and Council have voted themselves an immediate 130% salary increase (see reverse side)

We need your signature by 6/30 to put it to a vote of the people

How to Sign: We can come to you -or- visit our website for a list of table locations and times

WEB WWW.TRANSPARENTPG.ORG
EMAIL INFO@TRANSPARENTPG.ORG

SIGN THE PETITION TODAY!

CALL OR TEXT (831) 238-0714

Let the Voters Decide

MONTEREY COUNTY ELECTIONS

1441 Schilling Place – North Building
Salinas, CA 93901
CountyofMonterey.gov/Elections

PO Box 4400
Salinas, CA 93912

831-796-1499 Phone
831-755-5485 Fax
Elections@countyofmonterey.gov

Gina Martinez
Registrar of Voters

Jessica Cedillo
Assistant Registrar of Voters



Certificate of Signature Verification

WHEREAS, Referendum Against An Ordinance Passed by the City Council – Ordinance No.25-007 – Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Pacific Grove Increasing the Compensation of the Mayor and City Councilmembers was transferred by the City Clerk of the City of Pacific Grove to the County of Monterey Elections Department for signature verification on July 2, 2025.

WHEREAS, the petition consists of 77 sections and 1,839 signatures;

WHEREAS, each section contains signatures purporting to be the signatures of qualified Electors of this county; that attached to each petition at the time it was filed was an affidavit purporting to be the affidavit of the persons who solicited the signatures, and containing the dates between which the purported qualified electors signed the petition; that the affiant stated his or her own qualifications, that he or she had solicited the signatures upon that section, that all of the signatures were made in his or her presence, and that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief each signature to that section was the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Elections Code §§ 9240 & 9115, the City Elections Official may request a random sampling review of 3% or 500 petition signatures, whichever number is greater, or a full check review, in which each petition signature is verified until the petition is determined to have passed or failed, at which point petition verification will conclude.

WHEREAS, of the 1,839 signatures submitted, Elections conducted a review of the petition following the full check methodology by examining the records of registration of this County, current and in effect at the respected purported dates of such signing, to determine what number of qualified electors signed the petition;

WHEREAS, Elections Code § 9237 provides that the minimum number of signatures required for an initiative petition submitted to the City is not less than 10% of the voters in the City, according to the last report of registration by the County Elections Official to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 2187, and there are 10,601 registered voters in the City of Pacific Grove as of the report of registration at the time of filing.

WHEREAS, of the 1,839 signatures submitted in the raw count, 1,299 were verified, 1,178 were deemed valid, and 121 signatures were found not sufficient.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the number of valid signatures on said petition exceeds 10% of the registered voters in the City of Pacific Grove.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 6th Day of August, 2025.

Gina Martinez, Registrar of Voters
County of Monterey

