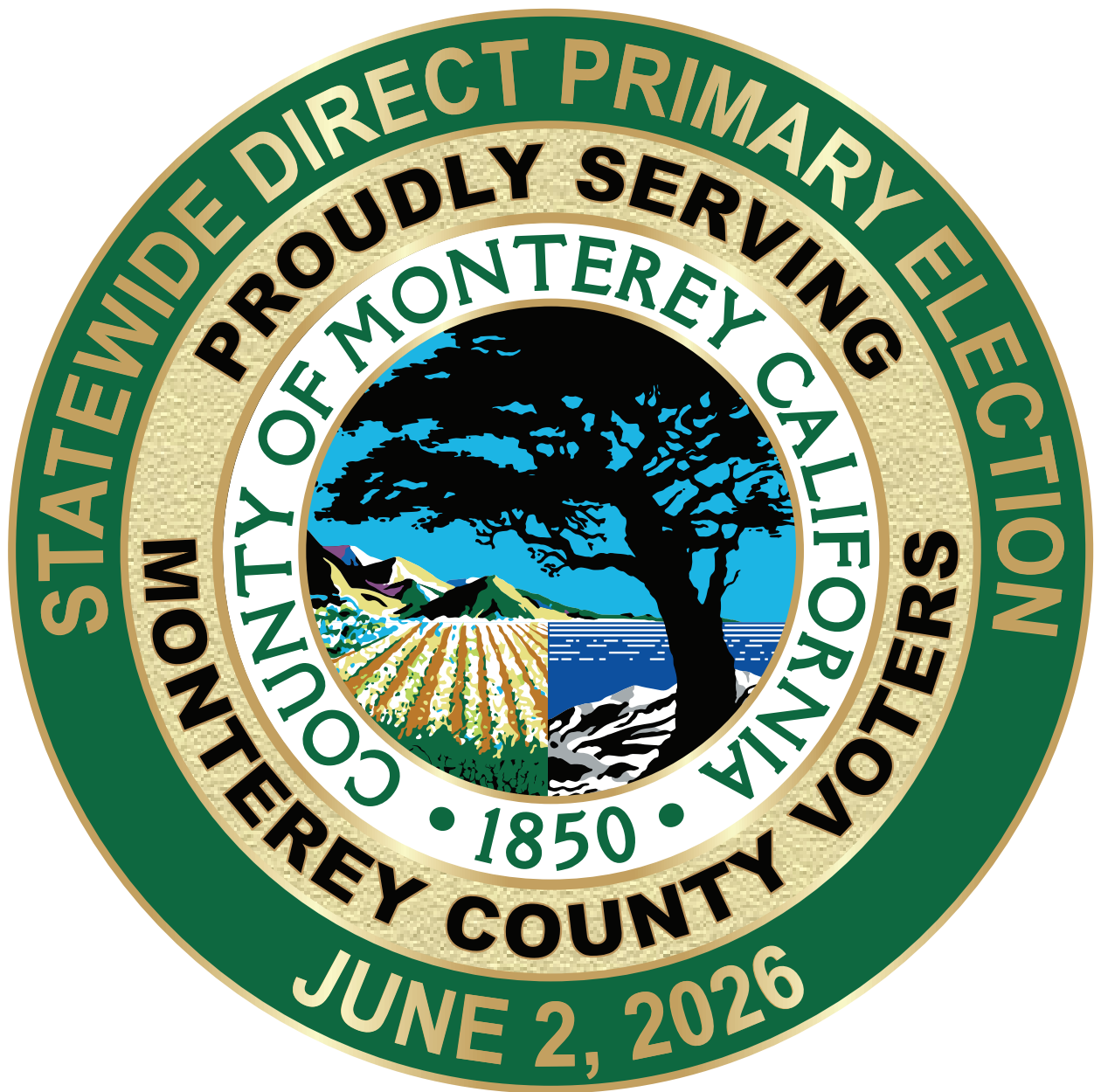




County of Monterey Voter Guide

Statewide Direct Primary Election
Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Condado de Monterey Guía Electoral

Elección Primaria Directa Estatal
Martes, 2 de junio de 2026



Local Ballot Measure: C

C

City of Pacific Grove

Ballot Question

Shall the Measure, increasing the compensation of the City of Pacific Grove City Councilmembers from \$420 a month to \$987 and the City of Pacific Grove Mayor from \$700 a month to \$1645 and with such new compensation taking effect on the date a Councilmember begins a new term of office in December 2026, be adopted?

What Your Vote Means

YES	NO
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.

In Favor of and Against Measure C

IN FAVOR OF	AGAINST
Bill Kampe, Former Mayor Bill Peake, Former Mayor Robert Huitt, Former Mayor Pro Tem Amy Tomlinson, Former Councilmember Don Mothershead, Retired City Employee	Debby A. Beck, Former Council Member Carmelita Garcia, Former Mayor Kevin Hanley, Economics Instructor Colleen Sarita Quandt, Former Chair Recreation Board



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.



Local Ballot Measure: C

Arguments and rebuttals are the opinions of the authors. We print them exactly as submitted.

Argument In Favor of Measure C

State law SB 329 reset the allowable cap on council compensation across California, prompting cities to re-evaluate pay scales that in many cases had not changed in decades. Pacific Grove followed the adjustment permitted under that law.

This is a one-time catch-up on more than 27 years of inflation, nothing more. Once approved, this measure prohibits any further adjustment for five years. State law also prevents automatic increases, so what you see is what you get: a single correction, then a freeze until 2031.

This measure covers compensation only. It does not add health insurance, retirement benefits, or any other perks. Pacific Grove will remain one of the most conservative cities in California on this issue.

The most important reason to support this measure is fairness. Councilmembers spend 40 to 60 hours each month on city business: preparing for agenda packages that can run hundreds of pages, serving on city boards and commissions, attending regional meetings, conducting research, and working directly with constituents and City staff. At current pay of \$420 per month, that works out to between \$7 and \$10 per hour, well below California's minimum wage.

When residents serve on the council, they give up time at work, time with their families, and time for themselves. For many, that means a real reduction in income and real out-of-pocket costs. Public service should be open to anyone who wants to contribute to this community, not just those fortunate enough to absorb the financial hit without a second thought. This overdue and reasonable increase in compensation is a step toward making sure that Pacific Grove's council reflects all of Pacific Grove.

/s/ Bill Kampe, Former Mayor

/s/ Bill Peake, Former Mayor

/s/ Robert Huitt, Former Mayor Pro Tem

/s/ Amy Tomlinson, Former Councilmember

/s/ Don Mothershead, Retired City Employee

Rebuttal To Argument In Favor of Measure C

The supporters of Measure C portray this 135% pay increase as a technical update justified under state law. Yet they completely ignore the fact that the Mayor and Council voted to give themselves an **immediate pay raise**, something state law prohibits, and **rejected** requests to **let voters decide**. As a result, over 1,800 Pacific Grove voters signed a referendum petition challenging the original ordinance. Measure C is on the ballot because concerned voters demanded **accountability**, and we still do.

City Council candidates told voters they would devote their time and energy to "public service." Yet just months after being elected, they voted to give themselves a triple-digit pay raise, a CalPERS pension spike, and to consider adding Cadillac medical benefits for their part-time work.

The Council then put Measure C, their 135% pay and pension spike, on a costly, low-turnout, special election ballot rather than on the November general election ballot. That's wrong. They're spending thousands of taxpayer dollars **more** than necessary so **fewer** Pacific Grove voters will decide their pay increase. Is that fair?

Supporters claim Measure C is necessary to attract candidates for local office. That's also wrong. Several of us served on the Pacific Grove City Council while holding full time jobs. Yes, public service is a lot of work but it's worth it. Supporters want you to focus on monetizing public service while **ignoring performance**. That won't fly.

Send the City Council a message: improve city services first. Earn a pay raise based on performance.

Vote NO on Measure C

/s/ Debby A. Beck, Former Council Member

/s/ Carmelita Garcia, Former Mayor

/s/ Colleen Sarita Quandt, Former Chair Recreation Board

/s/ Kevin Hanley, Economics Instructor



Local Ballot Measure: C

Arguments and rebuttals are the opinions of the authors. We print them exactly as submitted.

Argument Against Measure C

Has Pacific Grove's part-time Mayor and City Council earned a **135% pay increase** and CalPERS pension spike? They've done nothing to prevent catastrophic fire risk at George Washington and Rip Van Winkle parks; nothing to stop dangerous erosion along the Ocean Boulevard path; nothing to help prevent frequent power outages.

Other cities with part-time councils prioritize public safety, address dangerous speeding, proactively repair roads, sidewalks, invest in downtown improvements. PG doesn't. Blessed with a cornucopia of tourist dollars and property tax revenue, our Council's stated priority is to raise "council pay."

They're spending \$141,000 of your tax dollars for political consultants to create tax-raising campaigns to pay for increased Council compensation. The city has a \$55 million unfunded pension liability, yet if this measure passes those enrolled in CalPERS - including the Mayor - will receive a pension spike. We'll be paying their pensions long after they leave office. They voted to consider giving themselves Cadillac health coverage. They canceled 17% of Council meetings this year. This November, with district-based elections, each Council member will represent 83% fewer residents. **More money, less work.**

Why spend \$50,000 to hold a costly special election for a single measure? Only 51% of eligible PG voters turned out at the last special election. They're betting concerned residents won't vote. Prove them wrong.

A 135% pay increase, pension spike, and Cadillac health coverage are not necessary to attract candidates to run for these part-time offices. Running in a district with fewer than 2,000 voters is far less expensive than running citywide with 11,000 voters. We'll have more candidates, not fewer.

Council members volunteered to run for office, promised to provide "public service." None complained about the pay. Keep your promise to voters. Provide cost-effective city services that benefit all residents.

Vote NO on Measure C.

/s/ Debby A. Beck, Former Council Member

/s/ Carmelita Garcia, Former Mayor

/s/ Kevin Hanley, Economics Instructor

/s/ Colleen Sarita Quandt, Former Chair Recreation Board

Rebuttal To Argument Against Measure C

In 2025, Council followed the City Charter and state law to increase Council compensation for the first time since 1998, when gas was \$1.20/gallon. In the last 27 years rents have tripled and house prices in Pacific Grove have increased 333%. The \$420/month Councilmembers have been getting for the last 27 years isn't worth as much today.

Let's be clear about how we got here. Council acted according to state law and our City Charter. Because of a referendum, the City is required to place the measure on the ballot - a totally avoidable expense to the taxpayers.

The City placed this measure on the June ballot for a specific purpose: to give prospective council members timely and accurate information about compensation as they consider running for Council.

How does the proposed increase compare to surrounding cities? Marina now pays their councilmembers \$2,000 per month; Seaside \$2,400; Monterey \$950 plus health insurance; and Sand City \$950. All provide higher compensation for their mayors.

Measure C is a straightforward, overdue adjustment for decades of inflation. It adds NO insurance, benefits, pensions, or perks. It acknowledges the critical contribution of those who are willing to serve the community and its residents.

Vote YES on Measure C. It's the sensible choice.

/s/ Bill Kampe, Former Mayor

/s/ Bill Peake, Former Mayor

/s/ Robert Huitt, Former Mayor Pro Tem

/s/ Amy Tomlinson, Former Councilmember

/s/ Don Mothershead, Retired City Employee



Local Ballot Measure: C

Full Text of Measure C

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA, INCREASING THE MONTHLY COMPENSATION OF CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE COUNCILMEMBERS AND MAYOR AND PERMITTING CITY COUNCILMEMBERS AND MAYOR TO WAIVE ANY OR ALL OF THEIR MONTHLY COMPENSATION

FINDINGS

The People of the City of Pacific Grove hereby find:

1. Article 11 of the Charter of the City of Pacific Grove provides that the Mayor may receive compensation as provided by ordinance, but in no case shall the compensation exceed that amount which is permitted by State Law for General Law cities of comparable size to Pacific Grove.
2. Article 12 of the Charter of the City of Pacific Grove provides Councilmembers may receive compensation as provided by ordinance, but in no case shall the compensation exceed that amount which is permitted by the State Law for General Law cities of comparable size to Pacific Grove.
3. By Ordinance No. 1682 N. S. passed and adopted by council on July 19, 1989, compensation for Pacific Grove Councilmembers was set at \$300.00 a month and compensation for the Pacific Grove Mayor was set at \$500.00 a month.
4. The current compensation for the Mayor and City Councilmembers was set by Ordinance No. 98-24 adopted on August 19, 1998 (effective December 1, 1998), 27 years ago as of December 1, 2025, which increased the compensation of the Mayor from \$500 a month to \$700 a month and increased the compensation of City Councilmembers from \$300 a month to \$420 a month.
5. On June 29, 2023, Senate Bill No. 329 was adopted by the California State Legislature amending Government Code Section 36516 and was approved by the Governor pertaining to the compensation of City Councilmembers and became effective on January 1, 2024.
6. The findings in SB 329 included the following:
SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
 - (a) The compensation schedule for general law cities has not been adjusted since 1984, meaning that city council compensation has not kept pace with inflation.
 - (b) Allowing cities to adjust their compensation for inflation since 1984 may help city councils become more diverse because increased compensation can help individuals from across different income levels receive sufficient income from their service to help ensure that they can continue to serve the public and support their families.
7. Government Code Section 36516 (a) provides that a city council may enact an ordinance providing that that each member of the city council shall receive a salary in the following amount:
 - (1) For cities with a population of 35,000 or less, the compensation permitted increased by SB 329 from \$300 dollars to \$950 dollars, or.
 - (2) In the alternative, the compensation of City Councilmember could be increased by the greater amount of:
 - (A) An amount equal to 5 percent for each calendar year from the operative date of the last adjustment of the compensation in effect when the ordinance or amendment is enacted.
 - (B) An amount equal to inflation since January 1, 2024, based upon the California Consumer Price Index, which shall not exceed 10 percent for each calendar year.
8. Government Code Section 36516 (b) provides that "Notwithstanding subdivision (a), at any municipal election, the question of whether city council members shall receive a salary for services, and the amount of that salary, may be submitted to the electors. If a majority of the electors voting at the election favor it, all of the council members shall receive the salary specified in the election call. The salary of council members may be increased beyond the amount provided in this section or decreased below the amount in the same manner."
9. Government Code Section 36516.1 provides that an elected mayor may be provided with compensation in addition to that which he or she receives as a council member.



Local Ballot Measure: C

10. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36516.1, the amount of additional compensation for an elected mayor, may be provided by an ordinance adopted by the city council or by a majority of the electors voting on the proposition at a municipal election.
11. The California Consumer Price Index increased from December 1998 to December 2025 by over 100% percent.
12. City Ordinance No. 1872 was adopted on December 16, 1992 which allowed for the mayor and council members to decline all of their compensation but may not decline the compensation in part or accept in part.
13. On May 21, 2025, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 25-007 to repeal Ordinance No. 1872 N. S. and to increase the monthly compensation of City Council Members to \$966 and increase the monthly compensation of the Mayor to \$1610.
14. On August 20, 2025, following receipt by the City of a Referendum against Ordinance No. 25-007, the City Council approved a Motion to direct staff to return to the Council on September 3, 2025 with an ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 25-007 and to return to the Council at a future meeting for discussion of a possible ballot measure to be presented in 2026 for a public vote on an ordinance increasing the salary of the Mayor and City Councilmembers.
15. On September 3, 2025, the City Council introduced Ordinance No. 25-016 repealing Ordinance 25-007.
16. On September 17, 2025, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 25-016 repealing Ordinance No. 25-007.
17. Government Code Section 36516.5 provides for general law cities that an increase in compensation shall be effective whenever one or more members of the city council becomes eligible for a salary increase by virtue a council member beginning a new term of office which would be in December 2026.
18. Applying the 5% per year formula of Government Code Section 36516 (a)(4)(A), there would be a compensation increase for City Councilmembers from the current \$420 a month to \$987 a month using a 5% annual increase for the 27 year period from December 1998 (the last compensation increase) through December 2025 which is 27 years. 5% of \$420 is \$21 multiplied by 27 years is a \$567 increase. \$420 plus \$567 equals \$987.
19. Applying the formula of Government Code Section 36516 (a)(4)(A), there would be a compensation increase for the Mayor from the current \$700 a month to \$1645 a month using a 5% annual increase for the 27 year period from December 1998 (the last compensation increase) through December 2025 which is 27 years. 5% of \$700 is \$35 multiplied by 27 years is a \$945 increase. \$700 plus \$945 equals \$1645.
20. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36516 (b) when the question of the amount of the compensation of the Councilmembers is submitted to the electors, the salary amount shall be the amount specified in the election call.
21. Pursuant to Government Code Government Code Section 36516.1, when the question of the amount of the additional compensation for an elected Mayor is submitted to the electors, the additional compensation amount shall be the amount specified in the election call.
22. The City Council exercises its independent judgment and finds that this Resolution and the Proposed Ordinance are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), because the enactment of this Resolution and the Proposed Ordinance: (1) does not constitute a "project" as defined by CEQA pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(3) and 15378; (2) will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment pursuant to Section 15060(c)(2); and (3) is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment pursuant to 15061(b)(3).

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Findings. The foregoing Findings are hereby incorporated by reference in full.

SECTION 2. Repeal of Ordinance No. 1872 N. S. Ordinance No. 1872 N. S. is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SECTION 3. Compensation of Councilmembers and Mayor. Commencing on the date a City Councilmember begins a new term of office in December 2026, the compensation for City Councilmembers and the Mayor shall be as follows:

- A. City Councilmembers \$ 987 per month
- B. Mayor \$1645 per month

SECTION 4. Waiver of Compensation. The Mayor and/or individual Councilmembers may waive any or all of the compensation permitted by this Ordinance.



Local Ballot Measure: C

SECTION 5. Severability and Interpretation. This Ordinance shall be broadly construed in order to achieve its purpose. This Ordinance shall be interpreted so as to be consistent with all applicable Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. If any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, part, or portion of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The voters hereby declare that this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, part, or portion thereof would have been adopted or passed even if one or more sections, subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases, parts, or portions were declared invalid or unconstitutional. If any provision of this Ordinance is held invalid as applied to any person or circumstance, such invalidity shall not affect any application of this Ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid application.

SECTION 6. Publication. The City Clerk shall publish and/or post this Ordinance in the manner required by law.

SECTION 7. Effective Date. Pursuant to Elections Code Section 9217, this Ordinance shall be considered adopted on the date that the City Council declares that the voters of the City of Pacific Grove have approved the Ordinance by a vote of no less than a majority of the votes cast by the electors voting on this Ordinance at the Special Municipal Election held on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, and shall go into effect ten (10) days thereafter.

SECTION 8. Amendment or Repeal. Except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance, this Ordinance may be amended or repealed only by the voters of the City of Pacific Grove.

SECTION 9. Amendment by City Council. Pursuant to Elections Code Section 9217, this Ordinance may be amended by an ordinance adopted by the City Council provided that such ordinance is not adopted before January 1, 2031 unless the City Charter, as it may be amended from time to time, provides otherwise.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE this 2nd day of June 2026

APPROVED:

Nick Smith, Mayor

SAMPLE BALLOT

SAMPLE BALLOT
STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026
COUNTY OF MONTEREY

BOLETA MODELO
ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA DIRECTA ESTATAL
MARTES, 2 DE JUNIO DE 2026
CONDADO DE MONTEREY

5003

Ballot

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE REPRESENTANTE DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS	NONPARTISAN OFFICES CARGOS NO PARTIDISTAS	Auditor/Controller Interventor de Cuentas/Contralor
District 19 Distrito 19	All voters may vote in these contests. Candidates for these offices do not display a party preference. Todos los votantes pueden votar en estas contiendas. Los candidatos a estos cargos no señalan una preferencia de partido.	Vote for One Vote por Uno
☐ THOMAS COXE Party Preference: None Preferencia de partido: Ninguna Contractor Contratista		☐ BURCU MOUSA Certified Public Accountant Contadora Pública Certificada
☐ ANA LUZ ACEVEDO-CABRERA Party Preference: None Preferencia de partido: Ninguna Professor/Nonprofit Boardmember Profesora/Miembro del Consejo de una Organización Sin Fines de Lucro	SCHOOL / ESCUELA	☐ ENEDINA GARCIA Assistant Auditor-Controller Asistente del Auditor-Contralor
☐ TUKA GAFARI Party Preference: Republican Preferencia de partido: Republicano Small Businessman Titular de Pequeña Empresa	Superintendent of Public Instruction Superintendente de Instrucción Pública	
☐ PETER COE VERBICA Party Preference: Republican Preferencia de partido: Republicano Business Owner Propietario de Negocio	Vote for One Vote por Uno	Treasurer/Tax Collector Tesorero/Recaudador de Impuestos
☐ JIMMY PANETTA Party Preference: Democratic Preferencia de partido: Demócrata United States Representative Representante de los Estados Unidos	☐ SONJA SHAW School District President Presidenta del Distrito Escolar	Vote for One Vote por Uno
☐ LARS MAPSTEAD Party Preference: Libertarian Preferencia de partido: Libertario Businessman/Father Empresario/Padre	☐ GUS MATTAMMAL Educator/Executive/Author Educador/Ejecutivo/Autor	☐ JAKE STROUD Appointed Treasurer-Tax Collector Tesorero-Recaudador de Impuestos Designado
☐ SEAN DOUGHERTY Party Preference: Democratic Preferencia de partido: Demócrata Software Engineer/Parent Ingeniero de Software/Padre	☐ AL MURATSUCHI Assemblymember/Classroom Educator Asambleísta/Educador de Aula	MEASURE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTER INICIATIVA DE LEY PRESENTADA AL ELECTORADO
☐	☐ FRANK LARA Teacher/Union VP Maestro/Vicepresidente Sindical	CITY / CIUDAD
	☐ AINYE LONG Public School Teacher Maestra de Escuela Pública	CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE CIUDAD DE PACIFIC GROVE
	☐ ANTHONY RENDON Democracy Advocate/Educator Defensor de la Democracia/Educador	☐ Shall the Measure, increasing the compensation of the City of Pacific Grove City Councilmembers from \$420 a month to \$987 and the City of Pacific Grove Mayor from \$700 a month to \$1645 and with new compensation taking effect on the date a Councilmember begins a new term of office in December 2026, be adopted?
	☐ NICHELLE M. HENDERSON College Trustee/Teacher Síndica Universitaria/Maestra	
	☐ RICHARD BARRERA State Superintendent Advisor Asesor del Superintendente Estatal	
	☐ WENDY CASTANEDA LEAL School District Superintendent Superintendente del Distrito Escolar	

BOLETA MODELO

29 / Monterey BT18

MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY MIEMBRO DE LA ASAMBLEA ESTATAL		☐ JOSH NEWMAN Educator/Strategic Advisor Educador/Asesor Estratégico
District 30 Distrito 30		☐
Vote for One Vote por Uno		Monterey County Superintendent of Schools Superintendente de Escuelas del Condado de Monterey
☐ SHANNON KESSLER Party Preference: Republican Preferencia de partido: Republicano Children's Advocate/Businesswoman Defensora de los Niños/Empresaria	☐	Vote for One Vote por Uno
☐ SUSANNAH BROWN Party Preference: Democratic Preferencia de partido: Demócrata Data Scientist Científica de Datos	☐ RALPH GÓMEZ PORRAS Monterey County Deputy Superintendent Subsuperintendente del Condado de Monterey	
☐ DAWN ADDIS Party Preference: Democratic Preferencia de partido: Demócrata State Assemblymember/Teacher Miembro de la Asamblea Estatal/Maestra	☐ DAN BURNS Assistant Superintendent/Father Subsuperintendente/Padre	
☐	☐	
		COUNTY / CONDADO
		Assessor-County Clerk/Recorder Tasador-Secretario del Condado/Registrador
		Vote for One Vote por Uno
		☐ MARINA CAMACHO Incumbent Titular
		☐

C ¿Deberá adoptarse la iniciativa d que aumenta la remuneración de los concejales de la Ciudad de Pacific G \$420 al mes a \$987 y la del alcalde d Ciudad de Pacific Grove de \$700 al m \$1,645, y que dicha nueva remunera entre en vigencia a partir de la fecha cada concejal inicie un nuevo manda diciembre de 2026?

☐ YES / SÍ

☐ NO / NO