



EE City of Costa Mesa, Voter Districts Formation

Shall members of the legislative body of the City of Costa Mesa be elected by district as described in Ordinance No. 16-05, establishing six equal, geographically based districts, and the Mayor of the City of Costa Mesa elected on a citywide basis for a term of two years by the voters of the entire city, for a maximum of two terms?

What your vote means

YES	NO
<p>A “Yes” vote on this measure would approve Ordinance No. 16-05, which changes the current city-wide at-large election system to a district election system, allowing the creation of 6 districts, from which one council member would be elected by voters of each district and a Mayor elected citywide, commencing with the November 2018 election.</p>	<p>A “No” vote on this measure would leave in place the current at-large system for electing all 5 Council Members, elected by all voters city-wide, for staggered terms of four years each, with the Mayor selected by the council.</p>

For and against

FOR	AGAINST
<p>James Righeimer Mayor Pro Tem, City of Costa Mesa</p> <p>Steve Mensinger Mayor, City of Costa Mesa</p> <p>Gary Monahan Councilmember, City of Costa Mesa</p> <p>Janet Krochman Certified Public Accountant/Commissioner, Costa Mesa Senior Commission</p> <p>Gordon Bowley President, Costa Mesa United</p>	<p>No argument was filed against Measure EE</p>



Ballot Measures-EE

Full Text of Measure EE City of Costa Mesa

The People of the City of Costa Mesa do ordain as follows:

Title 2 Chapter II entitled "City Council Generally" shall be amended to allow for election of six (6) council members elected by-district and a mayor elected by voters city-wide. This ordinance enumerates residency requires for council members elected by district along with requirements for filling vacancies; describes the initial boundaries to elect council members by district as set forth on the map attached hereto as Exhibit A; and provides a sequence of electing council members to staggered terms.

This ordinance would maintain existing term limits for city council members elected by district but add term limits for a directly elected mayor to two (2) consecutive terms of two (2) years each.

Under this ordinance, a change in the boundaries of council districts shall be evaluated within at least one (1) year subsequent to the availability of the information from each decennial United States census, as made necessary by a change in the City's boundaries or by a four-sevenths (4/7) vote of all its members provided that the number of times a change in boundaries may occur shall be limited to once in any two-year period and no such change shall be made within the period of one hundred eighty (180) days preceding a general municipal election.

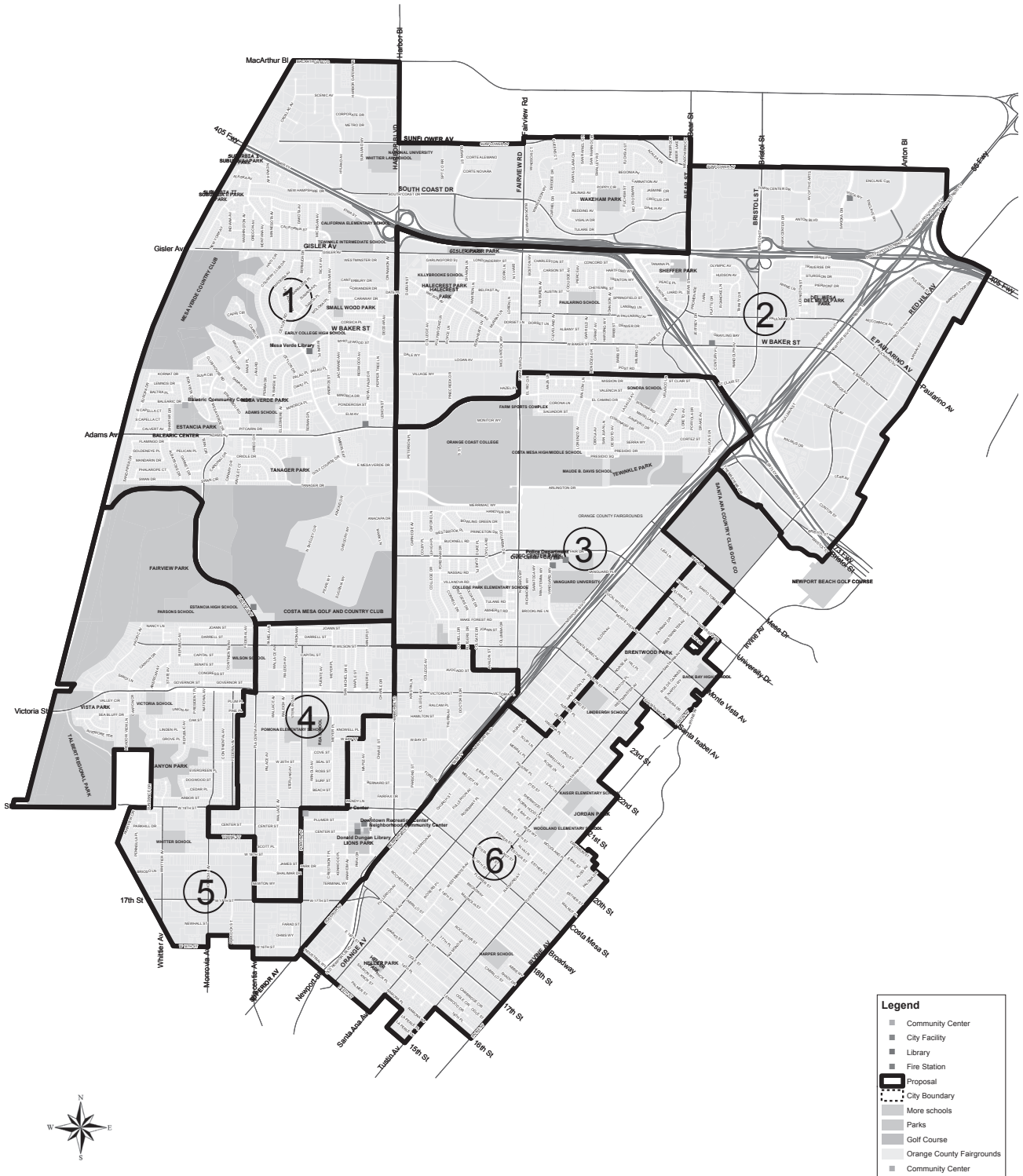
This ordinance provides that all five members of the city council in office at the time this section takes effect shall continue in office until their terms expire.

IF YOU DESIRE A COPY OF THE DISTRICT ELECTIONS ORDINANCE NO. 16-05, PLEASE CALL THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT (714)754-5225, AND A COPY WILL BE MAILED AT NO COST TO YOU.

Ballot Measures-EE



Proposed Council Districts for the Ballot Resolution





Ballot Measures-EE

Impartial Analysis City of Costa Mesa Measure EE

This measure seeks voter approval of Ordinance 16-05, which would amend the City's method and manner of electing members to the Costa Mesa City Council commencing in November 2018.

The City of Costa Mesa, as a general law city, currently has 5 City Council members elected by all City voters to terms of four years each, staggered so that 3 are elected one election year and 2 are elected in the next. The Mayor is selected every two years by members of the City Council.

The proposed measure was placed on the ballot by the City Council as part of a settlement agreement with plaintiffs who asserted that Costa Mesa's current at-large system violated the California Voting Rights Act. The measure would change this system to "district-based elections," a method of electing members to the City Council by voters residing within that district and the Mayor elected by voters citywide.

Under the proposed ordinance, the City would be divided into 6 geographic districts, as shown on the attached map, equal in population according to the latest federal decennial census. All Council Members elected by-district would serve a four-year term for a maximum of two consecutive terms. The Mayor elected by voters citywide (as opposed to the current system, where the Mayor is selected by members of the City Council) would serve a two-year term for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

Elections would continue to be staggered so that every 2 years, there would be a Council Member election with 3 Council Member and the Mayor seats up for election at one election (commencing in November 2018) and three Council Member seats up for election at the next election (commencing in November 2020). Current council members would continue to serve until they are replaced at the end of their current terms of office. After the initial establishment of the districts, the district boundaries would be modified, if necessary, every ten years so that each district continues to be as nearly equal in population as may be according to the latest federal decennial census.

A "yes" vote on this measure would approve Ordinance No. 16-05, which changes the current city-wide at-large election system to a district election system, allowing the creation of 6 districts, from which one council member would be elected by voters of each district and a Mayor elected citywide, commencing with the November 2018 election.

A "no" vote on this measure would leave in place the current at-large system for electing all 5 Council Members, elected by all voters city-wide, for staggered terms of four years each, with the Mayor selected by the council.

THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS AN IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE EE. IF YOU DESIRE A COPY OF THE MEASURE OR OF ORDINANCE 16-05, PLEASE CALL THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT (714) 754-5225, AND A COPY WILL BE MAILED AT NO COST TO YOU.



Argument in Favor of Measure EE

Measure EE presents voters with a fair plan for city council districts. It gives communities of interest, ethnicity, and socio-economic status a chance to elect city councilmembers reflecting their neighborhoods.

Measure EE creates six city council districts and a directly elected Mayor. The Mayor is elected citywide and has the same power as a city councilmember.

Each district contains approximately 18,500 residents, or about 9,000 voters.

This eliminates any real or perceived barriers for anyone interested in seeking a city council office.

The city has already paid \$55,000 to the attorneys firm that brought a lawsuit forcing us to change from citywide voting to electing councilmembers by district.

Part of our settlement is changing to district elections.

This is a summary of the proposed 6 districts city council districts:

District 1: Mesa Verde, Upper and Lower Birds, the State Streets, Wimbledon Village and the SoCo area. Includes the Fairview Developmental Center.

District 2: Halecrest, Mesa North, South Coast Metro and the Sobeca District

District 3: College Park, Mesa Del Mar and a small slice of the Eastside just east of the 55 Freeway. Includes Orange Coast College, Vanguard University and the OC Fair & Event Center.

District 4: Dense Westside pocket south of the Fairview Developmental Center, ranging from Harbor Boulevard west to Monrovia Avenue and south to West 17th Street

District 5: Wraps around District 4, taking in downtown and about half the Westside. Includes Fairview Park and Talbert Regional Park.

District 6: Covers virtually all of the Eastside, except the portion in District 3.

Measure EE will reduce the cost of campaigning because candidates can now easily walk their districts. They won't have to rely upon expensive mailers to communicate with voters.

Measure EE is the best plan for fair representation in Costa Mesa. Vote Yes.

s/ James Righeimer
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Costa Mesa

s/ Steve Mensinger
Mayor, City of Costa Mesa

s/ Gary Monahan
Councilmember, City of Costa Mesa

s/ Janet Krochman
Certified Public Accountant/Commissioner, Costa Mesa Senior Commission

s/ Gordon Bowley
President, Costa Mesa United

No argument against this measure was submitted.