

City of Garden Grove March 2006 Initiative Measure

An Initiative Measure to Enact an Ordinance Amending the City of Garden Grove Municipal Code to Establish a Legislative Body Comprised of Six Council Members Elected by District and a Mayor Elected by the City at Large

The City Council of the City of Garden Grove, does ordain as follows:

Pursuant to California Government Code, Title 4, (sections 34870 – 34884), all of the following Sections shall be adopted into the Garden Grove Municipal Code, Revised, Volume I, Title 2, thereby defining the election of legislative officers to the City Council by District and shall read without alteration and as composed by the founding initiative measure authors.

Section 1. Council Structure

The City Council shall be comprised of the Mayor elected by the city at large and 6 Council Members who shall be elected by Districts. There shall only be one Council Member from each District.

Section 2. Districts Established

For the purpose of electing members to the City Council, the City of Garden Grove shall be divided into 6 continuous and unbroken Districts. The City Districts shall be drawn such that they are near equivalent in voter ballots cast, as determined by the Orange County Statement of Votes for the November 2004 election, and as practically allowable by the geography of voter precincts drawn for the City of Garden Grove. The City Districts shall be drawn to allow a near equivalent geographical structured representation of the West, East, North Central (West/East), and South Central (West/East) regions of the City as practically allowable, and be defined by voter precincts established for the November 2004 election. The boundaries of said Districts shall be those defined in section 6. District boundaries may be altered by the City Council should future Registrar of Voter statistics show substantial deviations in voter population equivalency for the defined districts, or should county election officials change or alter any precinct boundaries.

Section 3. Council Member Residency Requirements

Every Council Member shall be a resident of the District from which the Council Member was elected. A sitting Council Member that changes residency from the District of election shall forfeit the said office.

Section 4. Council Member Change of Residency

When a sitting Council Member changes residency from the District of election, the remaining sitting Council Members shall appoint a new member to the council who resides in the District that was forfeited. The appointment shall be awarded to the candidate attaining the penultimate number of votes to the previous electorate of the said District. Should there lack a candidate with a penultimate number of votes, the appointment shall be awarded to a person who resides in the said District by the sitting Council Members at will.

Section 5. Lack of Council Member Candidates

Should circumstances arise, such that no qualified candidates exist for an available City Council Seat in any defined District, the sitting City Council shall appoint a Council Member from the said District at will.

Section 6. Legal Description of District Boundaries

- District 1 (City West Region)
Comprised of voter precincts:
14075, 14078, 14080, 14082, 14084, 14085, 14086, 14089, 14090, 14091, 14092, 14248, 14274, 14277, 14278, 14279, 14281, 14282, 14901, 14902

- District 2 (City Central Northwest Region)
Comprised of voter precincts:
14005, 14008, 14012, 14013, 14014, 14016, 14065, 14066, 14069, 14070, 14071, 14073, 14242, 14251, 14256, 14258, 14285, 14308, 14316, 14605, 14606, 14607

- District 3 (City Central Northeast Region)
Comprised of voter precincts:
14020, 14023, 14024, 14026, 14027, 14029, 14032, 14033, 14035, 14228, 14229, 14231, 14234, 14246, 14254, 14291

- District 4 (City Central Southwest Region)
Comprised of voter precincts:
14009, 14015, 14031, 14041A, 14041B, 14050, 14051, 14052, 14053, 14055, 14059, 14061, 14063, 14249, 14250, 14255, 14298, 14299, 14302, 14303, 14323, 14601, 14602, 14603, 14604

- District 5 (City Central Southeast Region)
Comprised of voter precincts:
14002, 14034, 14036, 14037, 14042, 14044, 14047, 14252, 14257, 14275, 14297, 14306, 14317

- District 6 (City East Region)
Comprised of voter precincts:
14018, 14021, 14045, 14218, 14221, 14226, 14235, 14236, 14237, 14239, 14241, 14244, 14247, 14295, 14314

Section 7. Candidate Nomination

Nomination for candidacy to the City Council shall be proposed by not less than 20 nor more than 30 electors. The said signatures shall be from electors residing in the District from which the Council Member is nominated.

Initiative Founding Authors

Anthony Flores, MBA, President, West Garden Grove Resident's Association

Verladene Lambert, Chairperson, East Garden Grove Resident's Association

Dr. Eugene J. Zaluzec, Directing the Garden Grove Civic Center Community

Initiative Measure to be Submitted Directly to the Voters

The city attorney has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

AN INITIATIVE MEASURE PROPOSING TO AMEND THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE BODY COMPRISED OF SIX COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECTED BY DISTRICT AND A MAYOR ELECTED AT LARGE BY CITY VOTERS

Summary of Initiative Measure

This initiative measure proposes to enact an ordinance of the City of Garden Grove for the purpose of abolishing the existing voting system of voters electing at large a five (5) member City Council and replacing it with a system of election of a total of six (6) Council members elected by district, and an elective Mayor to be elected at large by city voters. Section 1 of the measure states:

“The City Council shall be comprised of the Mayor elected by the city at large for a two year term, and 6 Council members who shall be elected by District for a four year term. There shall only be one Council Member from each district.”

Section 2 provides that the City of Garden Grove shall be divided into six (6) continuous and unbroken districts. These Districts are further defined in section 6 of the measure to be comprised of: District 1 (City West Region); District 2 (City Central Northwest Region); District 3 (City Central Northeast Region); District 4 (City Central Southwest Region); District 5 (City Central Southeast Region); District 6 (City East Region). Specified voter precincts are then assigned to each district. Section 2 further provides that: “The City Districts shall be drawn to allow a near equivalent geographical structured representation of the West, East, North Central (West/East), and South Central (West/East) regions of the City as practically allowable and be defined by voter precincts established for the City of Garden Grove.”

Section 3 states that each council member shall be a resident of the District from which the member was elected. A seated member who changes residency from the District shall forfeit the council member office.

Section 4 mandates that in the event of a council member vacancy by reason of change of residency, the remaining council members shall appoint a new member to the council which new member shall reside in that district. Section 4 further provides that “...remaining sitting council members are advised to appoint the candidate attaining the penultimate number of votes to the previous electorate of the said District.”

Section 8 preserves existing term limits as provided for in the City’s municipal code and further states the “...term limits times accrued by the mayor and Council Members previous to the districting measure shall be included in the term limit time served by the Mayor or any Council Member of any said district.”

Petition Section

AN INITIATIVE MEASURE PROPOSING TO AMEND THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE BODY COMPRISED OF SIX COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECTED BY DISTRICT AND A MAYOR ELECTED AT LARGE BY CITY VOTERS

City of Garden Grove
2006 Initiative Measure

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The People of the City of Garden Grove, do ordain as follows:

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Section 2. Districts Established

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Section 3. Council Member Residency Requirements

Every Council Member shall be a resident of the District from which the Council Member was elected. A sitting Council Member that changes residency from the District of election shall forfeit the said office.

Section 4. Council Member Change of Residency

When a sitting Council Member changes residency from the District of election, the remaining sitting Council Members shall appoint a new member to the council who resides in the District that was forfeited. The remaining sitting council members are advised to appoint the candidate attaining the penultimate number of votes to the previous electorate of the said District. Should there lack a candidate with a penultimate number of votes, the appointment shall be awarded to a person who resides in the said District by the sitting Council Members at will.

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Should circumstances arise, such that no qualified candidates exist for an available City Council Seat in any defined District, the sitting City Council shall appoint a Council Member from the said District at will.

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District 2 (City Central Northwest Region)

Comprised of voter precincts:

14005, 14008, 14012, 14013, 14014, 14016, 14065, 14066, 14069, 14070, 14071, 14073, 14242, 14251, 14256, 14258, 14285, 14308, 14316, 14605, 14606, 14607

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Section 7. Candidate Nomination

Nomination for candidacy to the City Council shall be proposed by not less than 20 nor more than 30 electors. The said signatures shall be from electors residing in the District from which the Council Member is nominated.

Section 8. Preservation of Term Limits

Term limits for the Mayor and Council Members as established and in effect for the November 2004 election shall be preserved. The term limit times accrued by the Mayor and Council Members previous to the districting measure shall be included in the term limit time served by the Mayor or any Council Member of any said district.

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BODY COMPRISED OF SIX COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECTED BY DISTRICT AND A MAYOR
ELECTED AT LARGE BY CITY VOTERS**

Notice of Intent to Circulate a Petition

Notice is hereby given by the persons whose names appear heron of their intention to circulate the petition within the City of Garden Grove for the purpose of enacting an ordinance providing for:

1. The election of members to the legislative body of the City of Garden Grove by districts and a mayor elected by the city at large pursuant to Title 4, sections 34870 – 34884 and sections 34900 – 34906, respectively, of California Government Code for a general law city,
2. The establishment of 6 legislative districts within the city,
3. Augmenting the number of elected City Council Members from 4 to 6.

A statement of the reasons of the proposed action as contemplated in the petition are as follows:

1. Electing city council members by district will create a government responsive to areas of the city that lack representation.
2. Representation by district will allow a city council member to have greater awareness about local neighborhood issues and concerns.
3. A city council member elected by district will be held to higher standards of accountability by creation of distinct constituencies that allow greater community involvement.
4. Electing city council members from geographical regions of the city will provide better reflections of city demographics and promote a broader governing diversity.
5. Choosing city council members by district will promote a system that will enable insufficiently funded and nonincumbent candidates to compete.
6. Special interest groups will have less influence over a larger city council.

Submitted by the initiative founding authors on 05 June 2005

Anthony Flores Verladene Lambert Eugene J. Zaluzec

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Notice to the public: This petition may be circulated by a paid signature gatherer or a volunteer. You have the right to ask. The use of your signature for any other purpose other than qualification of this measure for the ballot is a misdemeanor. Complaints about the misuse of your signature may be made to the Secretary of State's office.

Signer: Please sign and print full name and address as registered to vote. All signers of this petition must be registered to vote in Garden Grove, California.	This column for official use only.
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1.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	
2.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	
3.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	
4.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	
5.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	
6.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	
7.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	
8.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	
9.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	
10.	Sign here: _____ Print name: _____	Residence address: _____ City & zip: _____	

Declaration of Circulator (to be completed in ink by the circulator after signatures have been obtained)

I, (PRINT NAME) _____ am duly qualified and registered to vote in the City of Garden Grove, County of Orange, California. My residence address is:

_____, Garden Grove, CA.

I circulated this petition and witnessed each of the appended signatures that were written. Each signature on this petition is to the best of my information and belief, the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be, and the signers were registered voters in the City of Garden Grove, CA. All signatures on this document were obtained between the dates of _____ and _____, 2005. I declare under penalty of perjury the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on:

_____, 2005 at the City of Garden Grove, CA.

X

Complete Signature of Circulator

Once completed, please return **all pages of this petition to:**

**United Resident's Associations of Garden Grove
PO Box 4807
Garden Grove, CA 92842 - 4807**

Please be sure to complete the Declaration of Circulation!

If you did not collect 10 signatures for each petition circulated, please send in what you have.
More copies of the petition are available at GGURA.ORG

Volunteers Needed!