

CITY OF CERRITOS

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-37

A RESOLUTION OF THE CERRITOS CITY COUNCIL CALLING FOR A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2027, FOR THE ELECTION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AS REQUIRED BY THE PROVISIONS OF THE CERRITOS CITY CHARTER

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the Cerritos City Charter, a General Municipal Election shall be held on Tuesday, March 2, 2027, for the election of Municipal Officers (Members of the City Council); and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 1042 (Attachment A) authorizes the City to provide by City Council resolution the procedure for holding elections utilizing any methods provided for in the CA Elections Code, inclusive of vote center, polling place, all-mailed ballot, and all other methods as provided by State law, notwithstanding the limitations of California Elections Code Section 4000, *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cerritos seeks to conduct its Charter City elections in a legally-compliant, secure, efficient, and transparent manner, encourage voter participation, and expand voter outreach; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature with the enactment of Assembly Bill 37 (Statutes of 2021, Chapter 312) amended CA Elections Code § 3000.5 and has mandated every qualified voter receive a ballot in the mail for every type of election; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to increase opportunities for voter education and early voting, while safeguarding the transparency and integrity of the voting process; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature with the enactment of Assembly Bill 1762 (Statutes of 2023, Ch. 479) amended the CA Elections Code Section 2170 and established "Conditional Voter Registration," permitting otherwise eligible voters to register to vote and cast a ballot during the 14 days immediately preceding an election or on Election Day, subject to verification and eligibility requirements; and the City of Cerritos encourages eligible residents who are not registered by the regular registration deadline to utilize the registration opportunities available through the County elections official, so that these residents may vote and cast a ballot in the Tuesday, March 2, 2027 Cerritos General Municipal Election; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County elections have shifted to a Vote Center model, and City of Cerritos voters have become accustomed to receiving a vote-by-mail ballot automatically sent to them while also preserving the option to vote in-person; and whereas the State Legislature strictly provided legislation and funding sources to County Officials for the conduct of Vote Center models; therefore it is the intent of the City of Cerritos to substantially provide for a similar voting experience; and

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 5 of the California Constitution provides that Charter Cities, like the City of Cerritos, have plenary authority over municipal affairs, which expressly includes the conduct of its City elections.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CERRITOS CITY COUNCIL DOES RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That pursuant to the requirements of the Cerritos City Charter, a General Municipal Election shall be held in the City of Cerritos, California, on Tuesday, March 2, 2027, for the purpose of electing two (2) Members of the City Council for the full term of four (4) years.

SECTION 2. That the ballots to be used at the election shall be in form and content as required by law.

SECTION 3. That the City Clerk/Elections Official and authorized designee(s) are hereby authorized, instructed and directed to oversee and conduct the 2027 City of Cerritos General Municipal Election in accordance with the Cerritos City Charter, Ordinance No. 1042, and applicable laws and regulations. This includes the procurement and furnishing of any and all official ballots, notices, and printed matter, and any and all supplies, equipment and other election materials that may be necessary in order to properly and lawfully conduct the election.

SECTION 4. The City shall pay all reasonable and actual election expenses upon presentation of a properly submitted invoice and any other required financial documentation.

SECTION 5. That the City of Cerritos shall conduct a hybrid election consisting of an all-mail-ballot election with in-person voting at City Hall. The last day to register to vote in the Tuesday, March 2, 2027 Cerritos General Municipal Election shall be the 15th day before the election, in accordance with California Elections Code Section 2102. Voting hours on Election Day shall be 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. consistent with CA Elections Code Section 14212. The Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official shall provide official notification to voters regarding in-person voting hours for the days preceding Election Day.

SECTION 6. That the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official and authorized designee(s), are hereby authorized to accept and include in the canvass of the City's standalone municipal election any provisional ballot cast by an otherwise qualified elector who registered to vote during the 14 days immediately preceding election day pursuant to CA Elections Code Section 2170, provided that the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters has determined and confirmed that the voter's registration is effective, that the voter is otherwise eligible to vote in the City's election, and that the voter has not otherwise been disqualified from voting in the election not later than Tuesday, March 2, 2027. The Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official and authorized designee(s) shall coordinate with the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters as necessary to obtain confirmation of such voter's registration status and eligibility and shall count the voted ballot in accordance with applicable law and the procedures established for the City's election.

SECTION 7. That the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official shall provide for in-person voting at City Hall and the designated room shall be available for voting or dropping off vote-by-mail ballots at least 29 days before the date of the election. The Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official shall implement safety protocols to ensure a voter cannot vote twice in the same election. The in-person voting shall not constitute a traditional polling place nor a vote center. In-person voting shall substantially provide translated materials as prescribed by CA Elections Code Section 14201 except for items specifically mentioned to apply to the County Elections Official. The provisions of CA Election Code Sections 14295 and 14298 regarding any street index shall not apply. A list of voters who have already voted shall be made available upon request in the Office of the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official.

SECTION 8. That the provisions of the CA Elections Code relating to the conduct of traditional polling place and vote center elections shall not apply for the Tuesday, March 2, 2027 Cerritos General Municipal Election. CA Elections Code Section 3001 regarding when the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official may begin mailing/providing vote-by-mail ballot packages shall not apply. The Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official shall begin mailing ballot packages no later than 29 days before the General Municipal Election consistent with CA Elections Code § 3000.5(a) and may begin mailing and providing vote-by-mail ballot packages earlier, if feasible, to provide for expanded voter education, outreach, and voting opportunities. Vote-by-mail ballot packages can be issued through the Election Day of the General Municipal Election. Any ballot issued to a person for in-person voting shall be treated as the issuance of one of the following: (a) a replacement ballot consistent with CA Elections Code Section 3014, (b) a nonprovisional ballot consistent with CA Elections Code Section 3015, or (c) a provisional ballot consistent with CA Elections Code Section 3016.

SECTION 9. That the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official shall provide for a Voter Information Guide to be mailed to every registered voter substantially in the form provided in CA Elections Code Sections 13300 and 13306.

SECTION 10. That the provisions of California Elections Code Section 12241 relating to precinct consolidation shall not apply to the Tuesday, March 2, 2027 General Municipal Election. The Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official shall establish eight consolidated precincts.

SECTION 11. That the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official is authorized to begin processing vote-by-mail ballot return envelopes and the canvass process beginning 29 days before Election Day consistent with CA Elections Code Section 15101. This may include verifying the voter's signature on the vote-by-mail ballot return envelope pursuant to CA Elections Code Section 3019 and updating voter history records for transmission to the County Registrar of Voters. The initiation of counting ballots shall occur after voting has closed on Election Day.

SECTION 12. That the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official shall perform a manual audit of ballots received consistent with the provisions of CA Elections Code Section 15360.

SECTION 13. That pursuant to the provisions of Cerritos City Charter Section 400 and in accordance with CA Elections Code § 15651(a), ties among qualified candidates for the office of City Councilmember shall be settled by the casting of lots.

SECTION 14. That the provisions of CA Elections Code § 10229(b) shall not apply to the Tuesday, March 2, 2027 Cerritos General Municipal Election. If upon the close of the official candidate nomination period or by the closed of any extended official candidate nomination period required by law there are no qualified candidates, or if the number of qualified candidates does not exceed the number of open offices of Member of the City Council to be filled, the City Council may appoint to fill the number of open offices of Member of the City Council, as necessary. The City Council shall appoint first from the list of qualified candidates until the list is exhausted. If there are additional open seats to be filled, the City Council shall appoint eligible individuals in the number required to fill the remaining open seats. All appointed individuals shall serve with the same authority as if elected to the office of Member of the City Council.

SECTION 15. That the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official shall retain and preserve election materials from the Tuesday, March 2, 2027 Cerritos General Municipal Election as required by State Law and the City's local retention schedule.

SECTION 16. That if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this resolution is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution. The Cerritos City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this resolution and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 17. That notice of the time and place of holding the election is given and the City Clerk/Elections Official is authorized, instructed and directed to give further or additional notice of the election, in time, form and manner as required by law.

SECTION 18. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and cause same to be archived in the book of original resolutions.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON this 28th day of September, 2026.


Lynda Provide Johnson
Mayor

ATTEST:



Cynthia Nava
City Clerk/Elections Official

CITY OF CERRITOS
ORDINANCE NO. 1042

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CERRITOS, CALIFORNIA
ESTABLISHING THE CITY'S GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION DATE AS
THE FIRST TUESDAY AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY IN MARCH OF EACH
ODD-NUMBERED YEAR AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 1036**

WHEREAS, the City's General Municipal Election is currently scheduled for the second Tuesday in April of even-numbered years pursuant to Ordinance No. 1036; and

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Cerritos and California Elections Code Sections 1301 and 10403.5 authorize the City to reschedule its General Municipal Election as necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Cerritos authorizes the City Council to adopt by ordinance the procedures for holding elections so far as they are not in conflict with the Charter; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate the safe, secure, efficient, and transparent conduct of its future Charter City elections, the City may conduct its elections utilizing any methods provided for in the California Elections Code, inclusive of vote center, polling place, all-mailed ballot, and all other methods as provided by State law, notwithstanding the limitations of California Elections Code Section 4000 et seq., as authorized from time-to-time by City Council resolution; and

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CERRITOS DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to the Charter of the City of Cerritos and California Elections Code Sections 1301 and 10403.5, the date of the General Municipal Election of the City of Cerritos is established as the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of odd-numbered years.

SECTION 2. In accordance with the change of election date, the terms of office of those members of the City Council presently serving shall be extended for a period consistent with the Charter of the City of Cerritos.

SECTION 3. Section 2.40.010 of the Cerritos Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 2.40.010 Date of General Municipal Elections

General municipal elections shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of each odd-numbered year.

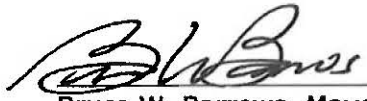
SECTION 4. The next general municipal election to be held in the City of Cerritos, following the adoption of this ordinance, shall be scheduled for March 4, 2025.

SECTION 5. Ordinance 1036 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. The City Clerk and authorized designee(s) are hereby authorized to oversee and conduct the City of Cerritos General Municipal Election in accordance with the Charter of the City of Cerritos and applicable laws and regulations.

SECTION 7. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and cause same to be posted as required.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 27th day of April, 2023.


Bruce W. Barrows, Mayor

ATTEST:


Vida Barone, City Clerk

State of California)
County of Los Angeles) ss.
City of Cerritos)

I, Vida Barone, City Clerk of the City of Cerritos, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing **Ordinance No. 1042** was introduced for first reading on April 10, 2023. Thereafter, said Ordinance was duly approved and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council on April 27, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers – Vo, Solanki, Barrows
NOES: Councilmembers – Johnson, Yokoyama
ABSENT: Councilmembers – None
ABSTAIN: Councilmembers – None

Dated: April 27, 2023



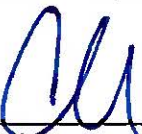
Vida Barone, City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) ss.
CITY OF CERRITOS)

I, Cynthia Nava, City Clerk of the City of Cerritos, California, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing **Resolution No. 2026-37** was duly approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Cerritos at a Regular Meeting held on the 28th day of September, 2026, and that it was so adopted as follows:

AYES:	Councilmembers –	Hong, Tse, Yokoyama, Johnson, Pulido
NOES:	Councilmembers –	None
ABSENT:	Councilmembers –	None
ABSTAIN:	Councilmembers –	None

DATED: September 28, 2026



Cynthia Nava, City Clerk