

City of La Verne, City Council Agenda Report



**Approved on 6/2/2025 at
the regular meeting of the
La Verne City Council.**

DATE: June 2, 2025
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Ken Domer, City Manager
SUBJECT: **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE CHANGING THE DATE OF THE CITY'S
MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION.**

SUMMARY

Prior to 2020, the City held municipal elections in March of odd-numbered years. With the passage of Senate Bill 415, the City moved its election to coincide with the statewide Primary Election date in March of even years. The State then changed election dates for non-presidential years to be held in June, requiring adjustment again. This proposed Ordinance adjusts the date of municipal elections to coincide with the statewide General Election, which is held in November of even-numbered years.

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council adopt the Ordinance titled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, CALIFORNIA, CHANGING THE DATE OF THE CITY'S GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION FROM THE DATE OF THE STATEWIDE PRIMARY IN ELECTION YEARS TO THE DATE OF THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION (FIRST TUESDAY AFTER FIRST MONDAY IN NOVEMBER) IN ELECTION YEARS."

DISCUSSION

At the Council meeting of May 19, 2025, the City Council discussed, reviewed, took public comment, and approved unanimously the First Reading of the proposed Ordinance changing the election date of the City's municipal general election.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

If the ordinance is adopted and the election moved to November 2026, funds will be budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Not applicable.

LEGAL REVIEW

The City Attorney has reviewed and approved this item.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ordinance Changing Election Date to November

Report Prepared By:
Debra Fritz, Deputy City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 25-1132

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE,
CALIFORNIA, CHANGING THE DATE OF THE CITY'S GENERAL
MUNICIPAL ELECTION FROM THE DATE OF THE STATEWIDE
PRIMARY IN ELECTION YEARS TO THE DATE OF THE STATEWIDE
GENERAL ELECTION (FIRST TUESDAY AFTER FIRST MONDAY IN
NOVEMBER) IN ELECTION YEARS

WHEREAS, based on requirements under the Voter Participation Rights Act (Senate Bill 415), the City changed the dates of the City's general municipal election to coincide with statewide primary election dates by adopting Ordinance No. 1080 on December 18, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the State changed its statewide primary from June to March in presidential primary years though Assembly Bill 970, while retaining the June election date in non-presidential primary years, thus necessitating the City Council to adopt Ordinance No. 1108 on December 5, 2021; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that consistency in holding the City's general municipal election is best for encouraging wider access and understanding of election requirements and timelines; and

WHEREAS, holding the City's general municipal election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November allows installation of new council members in December, thus providing opportunity for new council members to receive timely new member orientation from entities such as the League of California Cities, as well as introduction to the role of a council member and participation in City efforts such as strategic planning sessions, the development of the Fiscal Year budget, and the study session and public hearings on budget related matters prior to the adoption of a new fiscal year budget; and

WHEREAS, the nomination period for city council positions in each election year will consistently be from the second week of July to the second week of August, thereby ensuring greater understanding for individuals interested in seeking nomination, as well as aligning other election dates for ballot measures to reduce the conflict with such deadlines being during holiday periods when the general municipal election is held in March; and

WHEREAS, the La Verne City Council will remain in compliance with Senate Bill 415 and actually expect to heighten voter participation by aligning the City's general municipal election date with the Statewide general election; and

WHEREAS, sections 1301 and 10403.5 of the California Elections Code authorize the City Council to reschedule the City's general municipal election and to increase or decrease any affected terms of office by not more than 12 months; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the terms of the Council offices set to expire in July of 2026 will be
2 extended to expire following the certification of results from the 2026 statewide general
3 election in November 2026 and the terms set to expire in April of 2028 will be extended
to expire following the certification of results from the 2028 statewide general election in
November 2028.

4 **NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE DOES**
5 **HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

6 **Section 1.** Ordinance No. 1108 is hereby repealed.

7 **Section 2.** Change of Election Day. The City Council hereby establishes the date
8 of the statewide general election held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in
9 November of each even-numbered year as the date of the general municipal election in
the City of La Verne commencing in November 2026.

10 **Section 3.** Adjustment to Terms of Office. In accordance with sections 1301 and
11 10403.5 of the California Elections Code, the terms of any elected City Officeholders
12 that would have expired in July of 2026 shall, instead, expire in the same manner, after
the certification of the results of the November 2026 General Municipal Election
13 established by this Ordinance. Similarly, terms of office that are scheduled to expire in
April 2028 shall, instead, expire in the same manner, after the certification of the results
of the November 2028 General Municipal Election.

14 **Section 4.** Request to the County. The Deputy City Clerk shall forward a copy
15 of this Ordinance to the Los Angeles County Elections Division and Clerk of the Los
16 Angeles County Board of Supervisors with the request that the Board of Supervisors
approve this Ordinance and provide the City with notice of such approval.

17 **Section 5.** Operative Date. This Ordinance shall not become effective until
18 approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors pursuant to California
Elections Code section 1301 (b)(1).

19 **Section 6.** Severability. The City Council declares that should any provision,
20 section, paragraph, sentence or word of this Ordinance be rendered or declared invalid
21 by any final court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation,
the remaining provisions, sections, paragraphs, sentences or words of this Ordinance
22 shall remain in full force and effect.

23 **Section 7.** Notice to Voters. Pursuant to section 10403.5 (e) of the California
24 Elections Code, within 30 days after this Ordinance becomes operative, the City
elections official shall cause notice to be mailed to all registered voters in the City
25 informing the voters of the change in the election date made by this Ordinance and that,
as a result of the change in the election date, the terms of the office of City
26 Officeholders will be extended and expire in the same manner, after the certification of
27
28

the results of the November 2026 General Municipal Election and the November 2028 General Municipal Election.

Section 8. The Mayor shall sign and the Deputy City Clerk shall certify the passage and adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same to be published and posted pursuant to the provisions of law in that regard and this Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its final passage and upon approval by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 2nd day of June 2025.



Mayor Tim Hepburn

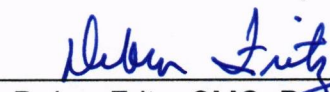


Debra Fritz, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing **Ordinance 25-1132** was duly and regularly adopted by the City Council of the City of La Verne at a meeting thereof held on the **2nd day of June 2025**, by the following vote:

AYES: Johnson, Crosby, Lau, Kashifalghita, and Hepburn.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.



Debra Fritz, CMC, Deputy City Clerk