

THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

CITY COUNCIL

October 23, 2025

MAYOR
MARY MENDOZA

VICE MAYOR
MARY SOLORIO

COUNCILMEMBER
JOEL FAJARDO

COUNCILMEMBER
VICTORIA GARCIA

COUNCILMEMBER
PATTY LÓPEZ

Mr. Edward Yen, Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, California 90012

SUBJECT: City of San Fernando General Municipal Election Change of Election
Date – Ordinance No. 1737

Dear Mr. Yen:

The City of San Fernando respectfully advises your office that Ordinance No. 1737 was approved by the City Council at its meeting on October 20, 2025. The ordinance amends the City's General Municipal Election schedule, moving elections from even-numbered November years to even-numbered March/June years, in alignment with the statewide election cycle.

The approved ordinance is enclosed for review and consideration by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors at the next available Board meeting.

Sincerely,



Julia Fritz
City Clerk

cc: Alex Olvera, Division Manager
Election Information and Preparation
Los Angeles County Registrar, Recorder and County Clerk

Kanika Kith, City Manager
City of San Fernando

Richard Padilla, City Attorney
City of San Fernando

CITY CLERK
DEPARTMENT

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AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, CALIFORNIA, REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCE NO. 1668 AND AMENDING DIVISION 3 (GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS) OF ARTICLE II (CITY COUNCIL) OF CHAPTER 2 (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE SAN FERNANDO MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE THE DATE OF CITY'S GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS FROM THE STATEWIDE ELECTION DATE IN NOVEMBER OF EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS TO THE STATEWIDE ELCTION DATE THAT ALTERNATES BETWEEN MARCH AND JUNE OF EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS BEGINNING JUNE 2, 2026

WHEREAS, general law cities, such as the City of San Fernando (the "City"), are obligated to conduct general and special municipal elections in accordance with the California Elections Code (the "Elections Code"), per Elections Code Section 10101, *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, per Elections Code Section 1301(a), a city's General Municipal Election must be held on an "established election date" as that term is defined under Elections Code Section 1000; and

WHEREAS, the following election dates fall within the definition of the term "established election dates" under Elections Code Section 1000: (i) the Tuesday after the first Monday in March of each even-numbered year that is evenly divisible by four; (ii) the Tuesday after the first Monday in June in each even-numbered year that is not evenly divisible by four; and (iii) the Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each year; and

WHEREAS, per Elections Code Section 1301(b)(1), a city may enact an ordinance requiring its general municipal election to be held on the day of the statewide direct primary election and the day of the statewide general election and such an ordinance shall become operative upon approval by the County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2015, Governor Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill 415 ("SB 415") into law which, as of January 1, 2018, prohibits cities from holding their General Municipal Elections on any date other than a statewide election date when it can be shown that voter turnout for the city's last General Municipal Election is at least 25% or less than the average voter turnout within the city for the previous four statewide general elections; and

WHEREAS, under Elections Code Section 1001, a "statewide election date" is defined to mean: (a) an election held in November of even-numbered years, as is currently the case, or (b) an election held in June of an even-numbered year that *is not* evenly divisible by four and March of even-numbered years that *is* evenly divisible by four; and

WHEREAS, on August 21, 2017, the San Fernando City Council ("City Council"), in response to SB 415, approved Ordinance No. 1668 which changed the date of the City's General Municipal Election from the first Monday in March of odd-numbered years to the statewide election in November of even-numbered years commencing November 6, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the City's current General Municipal Election date also qualifies as an "established election date" within the meaning of Elections Code Sections 1000 and 1301(b) and a "statewide election date" within the meaning of SB 415 and Elections Code Section 1001; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to again change the date of the City's General Municipal Election from the statewide election date held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of even years to the statewide election date held on an alternating basis on the Tuesday after the first Monday of June in even-numbered year that *are not* evenly divisible by four and on the Tuesday after the first Monday in March of even-numbered years that *are* evenly divisible by four; and

WHEREAS, the new alternating General Municipal Election dates approved by this ordinance also qualify as "established election dates" within the meaning of Elections Code Sections 1000 and 1301(b) and "statewide election dates" within the meaning of SB 415 and Elections Code Section 1001.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

The facts set forth in the recitals above are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 1. Ordinance No. 1668 is hereby repealed and rescinded in its entirety and superseded by Ordinance No. 1737, upon its operative date.

SECTION 2. Subject to approval by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors ("Board of Supervisors"), Section 2-91 (Date of general municipal elections; consolidation with county) of Division (General Municipal Elections) of Article II (City Council) of Chapter 2 (Administration) of the San Fernando Municipal Code is hereby amended in its entirety to state the following:

Sec. 2-91. Date of general municipal elections; consolidation with county.

(a) The city shall hold its general municipal elections on the alternating statewide election dates set forth under subsection (b) of Section 1001 of the California Elections Code which are as follows:

- 1. On the first Tuesday following the first Monday of June in even years that are not evenly divisible by the number four; and*

2. *On the first Tuesday following the first Monday in March of even years that are evenly divisible by the number four.*

The first such general municipal election to be held pursuant to this section, shall be on the statewide election date of June 2, 2026.

- (b) *As required by Elections Code Section 10402.5, each City Council resolution calling the City's general municipal election shall be consolidated with the concurrent statewide election of the same date administered by the registrar-recorder for the County of Los Angeles unless the county board of supervisors denies such consolidation.*

SECTION 3. In order to accommodate the new election schedule, the terms for City Council members elected to the City Council at the November 2022 and the November 2024 General Municipal Elections shall subject to the following reductions as permitted by law:

Council Member	Election Date	Original End of Term*	New End of Term Due Change*	Approximate Reduction in Term
Mendoza, M.	November 8, 2022	December 2026	July 2026	(-5 months)
Solorio, M.	November 8, 2022	December 2026	July 2026	(-5 months)
Fajardo, J.	November 8, 2022	December 2026	July 2026	(-5 months)
Garcia, V.	November 5, 2024	December 2028	April 2028	(-8 months)
Lopez, P.	November 5, 2024	December 2028	April 2028	(-8 months)

**City Council terms technically end when the results of election are approved by the outgoing City Council, and newly elected or re-elected members are sworn in. This date can vary depending on the time taken by the Los Angeles County Registrar ("Registrar") to complete its vote count which can, notwithstanding statutory time frames, take up to a month. The precise date also depends on the City Council's meeting schedule following the Registrar's completion of its vote count.*

In compliance with Elections Code Section 10403.5(b), this Ordinance shall cause no elected city terms of office to be increased or decreased by more than twelve (12) months.

SECTION 4. Inconsistent Provisions. Any provision of the San Fernando City Code or appendices thereto that conflicts with the provisions of this Ordinance, to the extent of such conflict and no further, is hereby repealed or modified to the extent necessary to affect the provisions of this Ordinance.


SECTION 5. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance, or any part thereof is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 6. Publication. The Mayor shall sign and the City Clerk shall attest to the passage of this Ordinance. The City Clerk shall cause the same to be published once in a newspaper of general circulation within fifteen (15) days after its adoption.

SECTION 7. Effective Date/Operative Date. Government Code Section 36937(b) notwithstanding, this Ordinance shall become operative only approval by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, per Elections Code Section 1301(b).

SECTION 8. The City Clerk is directed to forward without delay to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors and to the County of Los Angeles Registrar/Recorder/ County Clerk, each a certified copy of this Ordinance along with a request to approve the City Council's proposed change of General Municipal Election dates.


PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of San Fernando at its regular meeting on this 20th day of October 2025.


Mary Mendoza, Mayor
City of San Fernando, California

ATTEST:


Julia Fritz, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Richard Padilla, City Attorney

CERTIFICATION

I, City Clerk of the City of San Fernando, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of Ordinance No. 1737 which was introduced on October 6, 2025, and adopted by the City Council of the City of San Fernando, California at a regular meeting thereof held on the 20th day of October, 2025, by the following vote of the City Council:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of San Fernando, California, this 21st day of October, 2025.



Julia Fritz, City Clerk