

Being a Member of the City Council

In General:

Each City Council Member represents a district of at least 56,000, and serves as a liaison between the residents and businesses of the district and City staff. The Mayor represents the entire City and serves as a liaison, problem solver, and collaborator between organizations, businesses and City staff on major City issues and projects. The Council meets at least once per year to develop the City's strategic goals.

Meetings:

The Sacramento City Council meets every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. Some meetings are moved to Thursday to accommodate conflicts such as election dates. As provided in the Charter, the Council may take up to four weeks off per year. These dates are typically the first two weeks of July and the last two weeks of December.

Members also serve on one of three council standing committees, as well as on a variety of joint power authorities and other committees (usually four to eight). The standing committees are the Audit Committee, Law and Legislation Committee and Personnel and Public Employees Committee. These committees meet twice a month. The authorities and other committees include, but are not limited to, the Local Area Formation Commission, Sacramento Transportation Authority, Sacramento Public Library Authority, Sacramento Regional Transit, and Sacramento Area Council of Governments. These committees meet bi-weekly, monthly or as needed.

Meeting Materials:

Materials for City Council and standing committee meetings are in the form of an electronic agenda packet, which the City Clerk's Office produces and publishes on the Friday before the meeting. The materials are also published on line for access by members from any internet location. Supplemental or amended materials may also be presented for consideration before or during the meeting.

Materials for authorities and other committees are provided by the respective agencies in relation to their meeting schedules.

Duties:

The City Council establishes City policy and ordinances; makes land use decisions; approves the City budget, hears appeals of decisions made by City staff or citizens advisory commissions; appoints the City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney and City Treasurer; and confirms members to citizens advisory committees.

Being a Member of the City Council

Compensation:

Members receive an annual salary of \$60,816. They also receive a financial contribution toward a medical and dental plan; life insurance; retirement; 401a plan; long term disability insurance; a vehicle allowance of \$4,800 per year; an expense allowance of \$2,500 per year; and a technology allowance of \$1,200 per year.

The Mayor receives an annual salary of \$115,500. The Mayor also receives a financial contribution toward a medical and dental plan; life insurance; retirement; 401a plan; long term disability insurance; a vehicle allowance of \$7,200 per year; an expense allowance of \$5,000 per year; and a technology allowance of \$2,000 per year.

Members are not compensated for attendance at standing committees, joint power authorities, or other committees.

Term of Office:

Members serve four-year terms, and are sworn in on the fourth Tuesday following the first Monday of November. There are no term limits. Terms are staggered with even and odd districts expiring in alternating even years. The Mayor's term expires with the even districts.

Location:

The City Council Offices are located at 915 I Street, 5th Floor of the New City Hall Building. Each Council Member has an individual suite in the Council Offices for themselves and staff, and shares common areas and equipment.

Staff:

Members of the City Council employ a District Director, an Executive Assistant, and if they choose, office interns. The Mayor's Office employs additional support staff. This staff supports the day-to-day activities of the Member's office. These activities may include organizing and attending public meetings, meeting with citizens or citizen groups, organizing and attending community events and meetings, meetings with staff to review upcoming agenda items, responding to organizations that want to do business with the City, and responding to and handling constituent complaints and concerns.