



## Local Ballot Measure: X

### Full Text of Measure X

#### AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF MONTEREY

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF MONTEREY DO ORDAIN, as follows:

##### SECTION 1:

WHEREAS, this action is to amend various sections of the City of Monterey City Charter to implement term limits for the Mayor and City Councilmembers. No Mayor or Councilmember shall be eligible to hold elective office after service for full terms equaling 12 years. A Mayor or Councilmember that is prohibited from holding elective office under this section will continue to be eligible for appointment to fill City Councilmember vacancies;

WHEREAS, this Charter amendment limits service to a combined total of 12 years of service, whether such service is in the office of Mayor or the office of City Councilmember;

WHEREAS, this measure will support those who have an interest in serving to come forward and help strengthen all current and future City services provided to our residents;

WHEREAS, term limits enforce turnover and reduce the chance an individual has to monopolize an elected seat. Term limits also help to focus the officeholder on governing rather than on winning elections;

WHEREAS, term limits provide opportunities for new leaders with new ideas, policies, and/or goals to support healthy growth and change in the community. This addresses one of the City Council's value drivers to create a more transparent and inclusive government;

WHEREAS, term limits foster diversity by not having to compete against an incumbent. Term limits are intended to engage new community members in local politics, thereby providing an opportunity for new leaders with new ideas, policies, or goals to support healthy growth and change in the community;

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the People to allow for the appointment of a person who is otherwise ineligible to hold the office of City Councilmember due to term limits to a City Councilmember seat when there are no candidates running for that office and, the restriction on a former Councilmember from holding any compensative appointive City office until one (1) year after the expiration of the term for which they were elected to the Council shall not apply to such appointment;

WHEREAS, the City of Monterey determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)(CCR, Title 14, Chapter 3 "CEQA Guidelines"), Article 20, Section 15378.) In addition, CEQA Guidelines section 15061 includes the general rule that CEQA applies only to activities which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. Because the proposed action and this matter have no potential to cause any effect on the environment, or because it falls within a category of activities excluded as projects pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378, this matter is not a project. Because the matter does not cause a direct or any reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change on or in the environment, this matter is not a project. Any subsequent discretionary projects resulting from this action will be assessed for CEQA applicability.

NOW THEREFORE, the People of the City of Monterey do hereby enact the following amendments to the City Charter:

SECTION 2: the People of the City of Monterey declare that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated and adopted as findings as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 3: Article 3, Section 3.1, subsection (d) is hereby added to read as follows:

Sec. 3.1 The Mayor.

(d) No person shall serve a term of elective office of the City for more than 12 years.

1. This subsection applies to full terms of office commencing on or after November 5, 2024.
2. The terms of office served as Mayor count toward the term limits for the office of a Councilmember so that the total years of service in any elective office of the City shall not exceed 12 years.
3. Notwithstanding any provision or limitation in the Charter to the contrary, including but not limited to Charter section 3.1(c), the term limit set forth herein does not apply to any term to which a person is appointed by the City Council to fill a vacancy.



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SECTION 4: Article 4, Section 4.1, subsection (f) is hereby added to read as follows:

Sec. 4.1 City Council.

(f) No person shall serve a term of elective office of the City for more than 12 years.

1. This subsection applies to full terms of office commencing on or after November 5, 2024.
2. The terms of office served as a Councilmember count toward the term limits for Mayor so that the total years of service in any elective office of the City shall not exceed 12 years.
3. Notwithstanding any provision or limitation in the Charter to the contrary, including but not limited to Charter section 4.1(e), the term limit set forth herein shall not apply to any term to which a person is appointed by the City Council to fill a vacancy.

SECTION 5: All Charter provisions or parts of Charter provisions, ordinances, and resolutions, or parts of ordinances and resolutions, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6: If any provision of these Charter amendments or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the Charter amendments and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 7: These Charter amendments shall take effect upon the date of election certification plus ten days pursuant to Elections Code section 9217 if it is passed by a simple majority of the voters voting on the question at the November 5, 2024 election.