Opposition to the PEC Mayor's Salary Ballot Measure Proposal

Councilmember Janani Ramachandran &

Councilmember Kevin Jenkins

Special City Council Meeting June 12, 2024





Proposed Amendment to Mayor's Salary

- Transfer power out of Council to Public Ethics
 Commission to set Mayor's Salary
- Increase every 2 years by CPI (up to 5%)
- Rationale to "align" it with the way we set City Auditor and City Attorney salaries



Difference from City Attorney Proposal

Baseline City
Attorney Salary was
much LOWER than
comparable
population cities

(From March 30, 2023 PEC Report)



Difference from City Attorney Proposal

Table 2: California Cities City Attorney Salaries

City	Population*	Salary
Fresno	543,660	232,463.00
Sacramento**	518,037	331,941.00
Long Beach	460,682	318,972.00
Bakersfield	408,865	214,601.88
Anaheim**	341,245	317,407.00
Riverside	317,847	315,312.00
Average Salary		288,449.48
Oakland	424,464	243,618.72

^{*}https://publicpay.ca.gov/

^{**}maximum salary recorded. All other salaries are actual salary of the sitting City Attorney.



Difference from City Auditor Proposal

Baseline City Auditor
Salary was much
LOWER than
comparable
population cities

(From March 30, 2023 PEC Report)



Difference from City Auditor Proposal

Table 2: California Cities Auditor Salaries

City	Population*	Annual Salary
Fresno	543,660	NA
Sacramento	518,037	194,873.00
Long Beach	460,682	233,309.00
Bakersfield	408,865	N/A
Anaheim	341,245	N/A
Riverside	317,847	N/A
Average Salary		\$214,091.00
Oakland	424,464	181,203.12

^{*}https://publicpay.ca.gov/



Difference from City Auditor & Attorney Proposals

Baseline Mayor's salary is much HIGHER than comparable population cities

Only 3 cities in California have salaries higher than Oakland: San Francisco & Los Angeles (which are also counties), and San Diego

Fresno: \$219K

Sacramento: \$164K

Long Beach: \$170K

Bakersfield: \$48K

Anaheim: \$27K

Stockton: \$90.5K

Oakland: \$216,000

Average Mayor's salary in the same 6 cities is \$119,781



No Other City Proposes To Do This

- Berkeley: Sets Mayor's salary as median income for 3-person household in Alameda County
- San Diego: Ties Mayor's salary to that of a Superior Court Judge
- San Francisco: Civil Service Board to set Mayor's Salary



Division of Power & Constraints of PEC

- Council powers over legislative items have been routinely watered down in recent years – with long-lasting consequences
- PEC has had a high burden of new responsibilities thrust upon them – yet is struggling to fulfill its existing Charter-mandated roles of investigations of ethics complaints and corruption cases.



We urge the Council to remove the Mayor's Salary Setting from the proposed PEC Ballot Measure.