



Frequently Asked Questions About the June 2026 Ballot Measure to Establish the Office of Mayor as an Elected Position

Q: What is the June 2026 ballot measure asking voters to decide?

A: The ballot measure question asks voters to decide if the City of Pinole should add Chapter 2.10 to the Pinole Municipal Code to establish the office of mayor as an elected position.

Q: Why was this placed on the ballot?

A: On February 3, 2026, the City Council approved holding a special election to ask voters whether Pinole should have an elected Mayor. This action followed the Council's earlier direction on December 2, 2025, for staff to prepare the necessary materials for this question.

Q: What is the current process to elect Pinole mayors?

A: The City of Pinole currently conducts at-large elections, in which each of the five council members are elected by registered voters of Pinole. The position of mayor rotates amongst the councilmembers on an annual basis following a long-standing tradition of prioritizing the council member who received the highest number of votes in the prior election to serve in the role of mayor.

Q: How would having an elected mayor impact me?

A: If approved, voters would be asked to elect a mayor following an election schedule that will be determined during the June 2026 Special Election (voters will be asked if the term of office of mayor should be two or four years).

Q: What new powers would an elected mayor have?

A: An elected mayor would still be a member of the City Council and would have all the powers and duties of a member of the City Council. In addition, an elected mayor shall sign all warrants drawn on the city treasurer and all instruments requiring the City seal. The mayor also may request the Governor to proclaim a state of emergency within the boundaries of Pinole.

Q: What would be the fiscal impact of having an elected mayor?

A: If approved, the new ordinance Chapter 2.10 would set the mayor's compensation at the same rate as that established for members of the City Council and be provided health and welfare benefits as are provided for City employees.

Q: Where can I get more information about the ballot measure?

A: For more information about the June 2026 ballot measure to establish the office of mayor as an elected position, including the official ballot materials, visit Pinole.gov. To get more information about voting and voter registration, visit: <https://www.contracostavote.gov/elections/voter-registration/my-voting-information/#VoterLookupandSampleBallotSearch>