



F

City of Lake Forest, Lake Forest Election Reform and Voter Choice Measure

Shall the measure limiting city council members to two consecutive terms in office with a mandatory four-year out of office period before being eligible to serve for another two consecutive terms in office, be adopted?

What your vote means

YES	NO
A “Yes” vote on Measure F <u>will approve</u> the Measure and prohibit City Council Members or the Mayor from serving more than two four-year terms without a four more consecutive years break in service.	A “No” vote on Measure F <u>will not approve</u> the Measure and will prohibit the City Council members or Mayor from serving more than two four-year terms.

For and against

FOR	AGAINST
No argument in favor of this measure was submitted.	James (Jim) Gardner Former Lake Forest Mayor and City Councilmember



Ballot Measures-F

Full Text of Measure F
City of Lake Forest

ORDINANCE NO. ____

AN ORDINANCE OF PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 2.04.080 OF THE LAKE FOREST MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE THE TERMS OF OFFICE ALLOWED FOR CITY COUNCILMEMBERS FROM TWO TERMS MAXIMUM TO TWO CONSECUTIVE TERMS WITH ADDITIONAL TERMS ELIGIBLE FOLLOWING A FOUR YEAR BREAK IN SERVICE

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Municipal Code Amendment. Section 2.04.080 of the Lake Forest Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2.04.080 – Term Limits

- (a) No person shall be eligible to serve in the office of City Council member or Mayor for more than two consecutive four-year terms. Any person may hold office as a member of the City Council or Mayor for an additional two consecutive terms if he or she does not hold office as a member of the City Council or Mayor for four or more consecutive years immediately following the conclusion of each two consecutive terms of office as a member of the City Council or Mayor. There is no limit to the number of times a person may serve two consecutive terms with the requisite four year break in service.
- (b) If a person serves for at least two years of a term, that person for purposes of subsection (a) of this section shall be considered to have served a full four-year term.

SECTION 2. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase added by this Ordinance, or any part thereof, is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid or ineffective by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of effectiveness of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof.

SECTION 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective only upon adoption by a majority of the people voting on the measure to adopt this Ordinance at the general municipal election on November 3, 2026. This Ordinance shall be considered as adopted upon the date that the vote on this Ordinance is declared by the City Council for the City of Lake Forest, and shall go into effect 10 days after that date.

SECTION 4. Execution. The Mayor is hereby authorized to attest to the adoption of this Ordinance by the voters of the City of Lake Forest by signing where indicated below.

**Impartial Analysis
City of Lake Forest
Measure F**

Lake Forest Municipal Code Section 2.04.080 currently prohibits any person from serving as a Lake Forest City Council Member or Mayor for more than two four-year terms. The City’s current term limits have been in place since the passage of Measure S in 2018.

Measure F amends Section 2.04.080 to prohibit any person from serving more than two four-year terms on the Lake Forest City Council unless he or she does not hold office for four or more consecutive years immediately following the conclusion of each consecutive two terms of office. After the required four-year break, a person may again serve up to two four-year terms. Each full City Council term is four years. Measure F was placed on the ballot by the Lake Forest City Council.

If Measure F is approved, the new four-year break between consecutive four-year terms would apply to all new or re-elected City Council Members beginning with the 2026 election. Adoption of Measure F would not increase the number of consecutive terms available to current City Council Members, as the current two term limit established by Section 2.04.080 of the Lake Forest Municipal Code will continue to apply. Once a City Council Member has served two full four-year terms on the City Council, the two-term limit will apply and he or she would no longer be eligible to serve on the City Council without a four or more consecutive years break in service.

A “Yes” vote on Measure F will approve the Measure and prohibit City Council Members or the Mayor from serving more than two four-year terms without a four more consecutive years break in service.

A “No” vote on Measure F will not approve the Measure and will prohibit the City Council members or Mayor from serving more than two four-year terms.

Measure F requires simple majority approval of the voters to pass.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure F. If you desire a copy of the measure, please call the elections official’s office at (949) 461-3423 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

/s/

MATTHEW E. RICHARDSON
City Attorney



Argument Against Measure F

Vote NO on Measure F. Defend the EXISTING term limits.

In 2018, an overwhelming 83% of Lake Forest voters delivered a mandate: we passed a measure to establish strict lifetime term limits of two four-year terms for Lake Forest City Council Members.

Now, to cling to power and continue to get their City pay, Councilmembers Scott Voigts and Mark Tettemer, who are set to be termed out this year, have placed a deceptive new measure on the ballot. Their goal is to replace the existing term limits with the new Measure F. They're trying to trick you by framing their new measure as "introducing" term limits.

Councilmembers Voigts and Tettemer have each already served a total of 16 years on the City Council: 8 Years before we had Term Limits and 8 years after Term Limits passed in 2018.

Their new measure, if passed, will replace the current term limits and allow them to serve two additional terms, take a break, and then come back for another two terms. If their new measure passes, these two politicians will end up controlling Lake Forest politics and its hundreds of millions of dollars for 32 out of 36 years. That isn't a limit -- that's a career, and, in their case, a lucrative one.

Defend the EXISTING true term limits. Vote NO on Measure F.

s/ James (Jim) Gardner
Former Lake Forest Mayor and City Councilmember