

Mayor, City Council, and Planning Commission Compensation

Prepared for: City of Modesto, Charter Review Committee
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Summary: **Mayors**—the median compensation for mayors in California cities with population of 180,000 or more is \$4,390/mo. For cities between 180,000 and 250,000, the median compensation is \$1,172/mo. Salaries range from \$175 to \$13,583 monthly.

Council members—the median compensation is \$1,522 per month. For cities between 180,000 and 250,000, the median compensation is \$800/mo. Salaries range from \$50 to \$6,250 monthly.

Establishing compensation levels—practices very widely, with approximately equal numbers of cities setting mayor and council pay by charter, by reference to state statute, by indexing to another salary, by a commission, and by ordinance.

Planning commissioners—practices vary widely, ranging from \$0 to \$100/meeting, not to exceed \$500/mo.

Please see reverse for a table by city.

City	Population	Mayor monthly salary	Council monthly salary	Method of setting	Planning commission
Anaheim	331,804	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	Statute	
Bakersfield	295,536	2,000	100	Charter	\$50/month
Chula Vista	210,497	8,167	3,267	Indexed to superior court	\$0
Fremont	200,468	2,211	1,407	Ordinance	\$50/meeting, maximum \$100/mo.
Fresno	461,116	10,833	5,417	Ordinance	
Glendale	200,065	800	800	Statute	\$0
Huntington Beach	194,457	175	175	Charter	
Irvine	186,852	800	800	Ordinance	\$225/mo.
Long Beach	474,014	9,695	2,424	Charter	\$100/meeting, maximum \$500/mo.
Modesto	207,011	800	800	Statute	\$0
Oakland	395,274	13,583	5,575	Mayor indexed, Council by commission	
Oxnard	183,628	1,543	1,543	Ordinance	\$75/meeting
Riverside	290,086	6,569	3,284	Charter	\$0
Sacramento	456,441	7,917	4,420	Commission	
San Bernardino	198,550	7,152	50	Mayor indexed to superior court, Council by charter	\$0
San Jose	912,332	8,750	6,250	Commission	
Santa Ana	340,368	200	125	Charter	\$100/mo.
Stockton	286,926	\$ 6,840	\$ 1,890	Commission	

Sources: CSUS Survey, Long Beach survey, City charter and other documents, various news articles