

**CITY OF TEMECULA  
AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** City Manager/City Council

**FROM:** Randi Johl, Director of Legislative Affairs/City Clerk

**DATE:** September 26, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Introduce Ordinance Amending Section 2.04.050 of the Temecula Municipal Code Revising the Salary for Council Members To Nineteen Hundred Dollars Per Month Pursuant to Government Code Section 36516

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**PREPARED BY:** Randi Johl, Director of Legislative Affairs/City Clerk

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the City Council introduce an ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TEMECULA AMENDING SECTION 2.04.050 OF THE  
TEMECULA MUNICIPAL CODE REVISING THE SALARY  
FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS TO NINETEEN HUNDRED  
DOLLARS PER MONTH AS PROVIDED IN GOVERNMENT  
CODE SECTION 36516 AND PROVIDING FOR  
REIMBURSEMENT OF NECESSARY EXPENSES

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Temecula is a general law city formed under the laws of the State of California. The City Council compensation schedule for general law cities is set forth in Government Code Section 36516 *et seq.* Current City Council compensation is \$600 per month pursuant to Temecula Municipal Code Section 2.04.050. City Council compensation was last adjusted in June 2003 via Ordinance No. 03-07.

On June 29, 2023, Senate Bill 329 (SB 329) was signed into law setting forth a new compensation schedule for City Council members. SB 329 declares that the compensation schedule for general law cities has not been adjusted since 1984, indicating compensation has not kept pace with inflation. The Legislature also declared that compensation adjustments for inflation may help city councils become more diverse allowing individuals from across different income levels to serve the public and support their families. SB 329 is permissive and not mandatory. SB 329 increases the maximum amount of City Council salaries based upon population size, permits salary adjustment by ordinance at two public meetings, and allows for additional modification under specific circumstances. Automatic adjustments for CPI or otherwise are prohibited. For cities

75,000 - 150,000 in population, compensation is set at up to and including one thousand nine hundred dollars (\$1,900) per month. While SB 329 sets forth an alternative calculation to the \$1,900 amount based on a maximum 5% increase per year from the date of the last adjustment (2003-2023=20 years), this amount is \$1,200, and less than the \$1,900 amount set by population. As such, the \$1,900 amount remains the maximum cap for compensation adjustment at this time.

On August 8, 2023, the City Council provided direction to approve the \$1,900 amount and bring forth an ordinance amending the Temecula Municipal Code accordingly. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36516.5, a change in compensation does not apply to a council member during the council member's term of office. This prohibition does not prevent the adjustment of the compensation of all members of a council serving staggered terms whenever one or more members of the city council becomes eligible for a salary increase by virtue of the council member beginning a new term of office. As such, any adjustment will be effective and applicable to the full City Council after the certification of the November 2024 general municipal election.

It is now recommended that the City Council introduce the subject ordinance as directed above.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There is no fiscal impact associated with the consideration of this item. If this ordinance is introduced and adopted, a fiscal impact will exist after the results of the November 2024 election are certified. The new salary amount will be incorporated into the City Council budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Ordinance