

ELECTION INFORMATION

Initiative:

An "Initiative" is a means by which an ordinance may be presented for the electors of a municipality to vote on - either if drafted and submitted to the voters by the City Council or by petition signed by not fewer than 10 % of the registered voters of the city.

There are a number of specific procedures for the initiative petition process which must be carefully followed. These procedures are set forth in the California Elections Code.

A person or persons wishing to submit an ordinance to the voters by means of the initiative petition process may consult with the City Clerk for general information - but not legal advice - or may do their own research in the Elections Code.

Recall:

A Recall is a means whereby voters may remove from office elected officials before completion of their term of office. Recall proceedings may not be started in the following instances:

- The official has not held office during his current term for more than 90 days.
- A recall election has been determined in the official's favor within the last six months.
- The official's term of office ends within six months or less.

Recall proceedings may be commenced by the service, filing and publication or posting of a notice of intention to circulate a recall petition.

The recall procedures detailing the petition and recall election process and are set forth specifically in the state Elections Code and must be carefully followed.

The City Clerk may be contacted for general information - but not legal advice - about the recall process, or the research may be done by the individuals interested in pursuing the process.

Referendum:

A "Referendum" is a means whereby electors of a municipality may protest the adoption of an ordinance. The referendum petition process must be started during the 30 days after adoption of an ordinance - which is the time before it becomes effective. A petition protesting adoption of an ordinance, and seeking to prevent its becoming effective by means of a vote of the electors, must contain the signatures of not fewer than 10% of the registered voters of the city.

Procedures for the referendum petition process in the state Elections Code are specific and must be carefully followed. The City Clerk may be contacted for general information - but not legal advice - about the petition process, or the research may be done by the individuals interested in pursuing the referendum process.