



City of Palos Verdes Estates

Voter Information Guide

SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018

MARK AND SAVE THIS SAMPLE BALLOT
For use at your Polling Place or for voting your "VOTE-BY-MAIL" Ballot

POLLS OPEN at 7:00 A.M.
AND CLOSE at 8:00 P.M.

The location of your
POLLING PLACE
is shown on the back cover

CAUTION: Your polling place may have changed from a previous election


Learn more about the City
on the City's website
at:
<http://www.pvestates.org>

**Mark your calendar.
Don't forget to vote on
April 10, 2018**

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26 Last day to register to vote for this election	27	28	29	30	31

April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Last day to request a Vote-by-Mail ballot	4	5	6	7
8	9	 10 ELECTION DAY	11	12	13	14

WARNING !!! Your POLLING PLACE for this election may be different from the polling place you went to for the last election. Please check the back page of this pamphlet for the correct location.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TRANSLATIONS AVAILABLE

Pursuant to federal law, voter information and sample ballots have also been translated in the following languages:

Chinese and Spanish

If you would like a copy of the translated ballot and sample ballot, at no cost to you, please telephone:

The Office of the City Clerk at (310) 378-0383.

CHINESE / 中文:

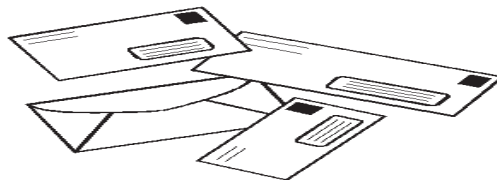
根據聯邦法律，選民資料和樣本選票已翻譯為以下文字，可供索取。如你想要一份免費的翻譯選票，請致電：
市書記辦事處的電話列在此手冊的後面。

SPANISH:

Si usted desea recibir sin costo alguno una copia traducida de la boleta y de la boleta de muestra, por favor sírvase llamar por teléfono a la Oficina del Actuario Municipal al número de teléfono que figura en la lista de la cubierta de atrás de este guía.

VOTE-BY-MAIL AVAILABLE TO ALL VOTERS

To apply for a **VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT**, fill in the Application Form on the back page of this Voter Information Guide and mail it to the City Clerk by the deadline stated on the form itself.



I HAVE VOTED – HAVE YOU?
OFFICIAL BALLOT
CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES
SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018

THIS BALLOT STUB SHALL BE REMOVED AND RETAINED BY THE VOTER

Mark your choice by
FILLING IN OVAL ● COMPLETELY
with a BLACK OR DARK PEN ONLY.



No. 12345

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PALOS VERDES ESTATES

MEASURE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS

E	To fund the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department, shall an ordinance be adopted	YES	→	<input type="radio"/>
	approving an annual parcel tax of \$342 plus 20¢ per square foot of building improvements, generating approximately \$5 million annually for 9 years and requiring a Citizens Financial Oversight Committee and annual financial audits?	NO	→	<input type="radio"/>

END OF BALLOT

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

To vote on Measure E, completely fill in the oval ● in the area to the right of the arrow pointing from the word "YES" or from the word "NO" with a BLACK or DARK PEN ONLY.

If you wrongly mark, tear or deface the ballot card, return it to the City Clerk's Office and obtain another.

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VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE

The following pages contain:

BALLOT MEASURES, ANALYSES, AND ARGUMENTS

ANALYSES: The Impartial Analysis is an impartial summary of the results of the proposed measure or proposition.

ARGUMENTS: Arguments in support of or in opposition to the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for accuracy by any official agency.

Pursuant to Election Code Section 3020, Vote-by-Mail ballots must be postmarked or time/date stamped by April 10, 2018 and received by the elections official by April 13, 2018. Vote-by-Mail ballots may also be dropped off before the close of the polls at a polling place on Election Day.



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
General Voter Information
<http://lavote.net/>**

**To find your polling place:
Click on “Voting & Elections”
Follow directions.**

MEASURE E

“To fund the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department, shall an ordinance be adopted approving an annual parcel tax of \$342 plus 20¢ per square foot of building improvements, generating approximately \$5 million annually for 9 years and requiring a Citizens Financial Oversight Committee and annual financial audits?”

Yes

No

CITY ATTORNEY’S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE E

Measure E proposes a special tax to fund the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department law enforcement services. Measure E was placed on the ballot by the City Council and requires approval of two-thirds of the votes cast to be adopted.

Currently and since 1929, the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department (PVEPD) has provided community-based law enforcement services to the entire city. If approved, Measure E would create an earmarked funding source for PVEPD law enforcement services for nine fiscal years.

The revenue from the proposed tax could be used solely to obtain, provide, operate and maintain local and independent community-based law enforcement services in the City. Permitted uses of revenue include paying salaries and benefits of police personnel and necessary law enforcement expenses, upgrading technology and safety equipment, maintaining response times, and administering the tax.

The tax would be levied for nine years starting in fiscal year 2018-2019 and would expire after Fiscal Year 2026-2027. The tax would be imposed on a per parcel basis.

The initial tax amount would be determined by adding \$342.00 per lot (“Base Amount”) plus \$0.20 for each square foot of building improvements on the property (“Improvement Amount”) as of January 1, 2018. For each fiscal year thereafter, the maximum amount of the tax would be determined by adding the Base Amount to the Improvement Amount based on the building improvements existing as of January 1 of the then-current fiscal year.

The tax would be imposed on each parcel of property within the City, except those otherwise exempt from property taxes. The procedures for its collection would be the same as for other charges and taxes collected by the County of Los Angeles on behalf of the City.

A five member citizen committee would annually review and audit expenditures of revenues from the special tax. The results of the citizen committee review would be reviewed by the City Council at a public meeting and included in the City’s annual financial audit. Revenue from the special tax would go into a separate account and the City would be required to prepare annual reports regarding the amounts collected and spent.

If approved, Measure E may be amended or repealed only by the voters casting ballots on such amendment or repeal at a duly called election.

A “yes” vote on Measure E favors levying the special tax for law enforcement services.

A “no” vote on Measure E opposes levying the special tax for law enforcement services.

/s/ CHRISTI HOGIN
City Attorney

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE E

Passage of Measure E will allow PVE to continue to maintain our independent, dedicated, long-standing Police Department for nine more years. All money raised by Measure E will be spent only on police services.

Our Police have helped make PVE one of the safest communities to live in Southern California. They provide us with such special essential services as Disaster Preparedness training, Neighborhood Watch support, home vacation checks and PV Cares for our senior citizens. Emergency response times average three minutes. Also, in the event of a regional emergency, having our own independent and local police department guarantees local police presence when needed most.

Last year, following the narrow defeat of the long-standing parcel tax that helped fund local public services, the City engaged PVE residents in multiple public meetings to determine community priorities. The number one priority of our residents was keeping our local independent police protection.

Measure E has significant safeguards and improvements not stipulated in the prior ballot measure:

- Most importantly it assures we will be able to continue existing essential services for nine more years.
- It requires clear accountability, including a Citizens Financial Oversight Committee, and independent audits to ensure tax dollars are spent appropriately.
- It requires that the money can be used only for police services –with every penny staying in PVE to protect our residents.
- There is no cost of living increase, no annual cost escalator.

Additionally, Measure E will ensure that we have local police who know the residents, know the streets, and are accountable and responsive exclusively to PVE. They are our police! Responsible only to us!

Opponents argue that the LA Sheriff's Department should replace the PVEPD. There is no comparison!

Vote Yes for Measure E to keep our local Palos Verdes Estates Police.

/s/ SANFORD DAVIDSON, M.D., Councilman, PVE

/s/ KENNETH J. KAO, Councilmember P.V.E.

/s/ JENNIFER L. KING, Councilmember PVE

/s/ MICHAEL C. MOODY, Former Mayor PVE

/s/ RUTH GRALOW, Former Mayor PVE

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE E

The City of Palos Verdes Estates government must learn to balance its budget without another tax on our properties.

- This second vote to tax our homes follows the City's reserves experiencing substantial depletion due to spending exceeding revenues.
- PVE Police Department's (PVEPD) "Updated Budget FY2017-2018" was \$7,500,000, 55% of City of Palos Verdes Estates' budget. Despite PVE's \$4,000,000 structural budget deficit, unfortunately the PVEPD POA/union chief stated it is "firmly opposed to any recommendations that involve police staff being cut."
- PVEPD budget is 3-4 times RPV's Sheriff cost, per capita. The City of RPV is triple the size/population of PVE, but in FY2017-2018 RPV is paying Sheriff \$6,100,00, merely 13% of RPV's \$48,000,000 citywide budget.
- Summary of LASD Sheriff quote received before Measure D stated, "50% increase in patrol service hours over current PVEPD deployment" for "overall cost of \$4,300,000 including liability."
- Same Summary stated, "Lomita station will shift Peninsula deployment to PVE" with Sheriff "Lieutenant assigned to PVE Headquarters."
- In 10/2017, PVE government updated cost: "the contract alternative of the Sheriff's Department is generally estimated to be \$3,500,000 to \$4,500,000."
- LA Sheriff protects every other city on the Peninsula, driven by economies of scale, highly trained officers, and superior resources (SWAT, helicopter) as the nation's largest sheriff's department.
- Sheriff's GPS-equipped squad cars patrolling PVE should respond as quickly as current PVEPD squad cars.
- As when PVE moved from its own fire department to the County, PVEPD's best and brightest should receive priority hiring by Sheriff for PVE deployment, keeping familiar faces protecting our streets.
- PVE-CARES and other senior programs may be staffed and managed by low-no cost civilians and volunteers.
- PVE is naturally safe due to remoteness along ocean, and affluent/mature demographics.

Vote NO on this unnecessary \$45,000,000 tax on all of our homes.

/s/ JENNIFER C. HOPE

Bluff Cove Homeowners Association, President

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES, CALIFORNIA,
LEVYING A LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES SPECIAL TAX, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PALOS VERDES
ESTATES TO ADJUST SPENDING LIMITS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XIII B OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION
BY THE AUTHORIZED AMOUNT OF SERVICES SPECIAL TAX, AND REQUIRING ANNUAL REVIEW BY A CITIZEN
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The People of the City of Palos Verdes Estates hereby ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. Imposition of Tax.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 3.7 of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code (Sections 53720-53730) and the California Constitution, - Articles XIII A, Section 4 and XIII D, Section 3(a)(2), there is hereby levied and assessed a Law Enforcement Services Special Tax, as defined in California Government Code §53721, by the City of Palos Verdes Estates for each of the nine fiscal years commencing with fiscal year 2018-2019 and ending with fiscal year 2026-2027. For purposes of this ordinance a “parcel of property” shall mean any contiguous unit of improved or unimproved real property held in separate ownership, including, but not limited to any vacant property, commercial property, single family residential property, any condominium unit as defined in California Civil Code §783, or any other unit of real property subject to the California Subdivided Lands Act (Business and Professions Code §§110000 et seq.).

SECTION 2. Use of Revenue.

- (a) The sole purpose of this ordinance is to raise revenues for law enforcement services in the City of Palos Verdes Estates. Use of the revenue generated by the parcel tax is restricted to obtaining, providing, operating, and maintaining local and independent community based law enforcement services throughout the entire City, which shall include paying the salaries and benefits of police personnel, upgrading technology and safety equipment, maintaining response times, paying for any such other necessary law enforcement expenses and paying the direct costs in levying this tax.
- (b) The proceeds from this ordinance shall be used only for the purposes identified in subsection (a) of this Section.
- (c) Upon the effective date of this ordinance, the City Finance Director shall create a separate account into which all revenue raised by this ordinance shall be placed.
- (d) The City Finance Director shall file a report with the City Council no later than July 1, 2019, and at least once a year thereafter which shall contain both of the following: (i) the amount of funds collected and expended under this ordinance; and (ii) the status of any project required or authorized to be funded to carry out the purposes set forth in subsection (a) of this Section 2.

SECTION 3. Calculation of Amount.

- (a) The tax imposed by this ordinance shall be a tax upon each parcel of property and the tax shall not be measured by the value of the property.
- (b) For fiscal year 2018-2019, the annual amount of the Law Enforcement Services Special Tax shall be determined for each parcel of property by calculating the following sum: (1) the amount of Three Hundred Forty-Two Dollars (\$342.00) (the – “Base Amount”) for each lot within such parcel of property, plus twenty cents (\$0.20) (the – “Improvement Amount”) for each square foot of building improvements located on such parcel of property as of January 1, 2018.
- (c) For each fiscal year after fiscal year 2018-2019, the maximum annual amount of the Law Enforcement Services Special Tax for each parcel of property shall be determined by adding the Base Amount for each lot within such parcel of property to the Improvement Amount multiplied by the number of square feet of building improvements, as such lots and improvements exist as of January 1 of the fiscal year.
- (d) For the purposes of this Chapter, the term “Building Improvement” shall mean any “structure” “erected” on the parcel of property, as those terms are defined in Chapter 17.08 of the Palos Verdes Estates Municipal Code.

SECTION 4. Determination of Lots and Building Improvements. The records of the City of Palos Verdes Estates shall be utilized to determine the number of lots within any parcel of property. The records of the Los Angeles

County Assessor shall be used to determine the amount of building improvement located on a parcel of property, provided, however, that the records of the City of Palos Verdes Estates Building Department may be utilized as necessary should there be a discrepancy between the records of the Los Angeles County Assessor and the actual amount of building improvement on a parcel of property.

SECTION 5. Exempt Property. The Law Enforcement Services Special Tax shall not be imposed upon a federal or state governmental agency, any local public agency, or any parcel of property which is exempt from ad valorem taxes by any other applicable law.

SECTION 6. Time and Method of Payment of Special Tax.

- (a) The Law Enforcement Services Special Tax shall be due in two equal installments in accordance with the collection procedures of the Los Angeles County Tax Collector, and shall be collected in the same manner, subject to the same penalties and interest, and on the same applicable dates as established by law for the due dates for the other charges and taxes fixed and collected by the County of Los Angeles on behalf of the City of Palos Verdes Estates. The County of Los Angeles may deduct its reasonable costs incurred for such services before remittal of the balance to the City of Palos Verdes Estates.
- (b) The Law Enforcement Services Special Tax, together with all penalties and interest thereon, shall constitute a lien upon the parcel of property upon which it is levied until it has been paid, and said special tax, together with all penalties and interest thereon, shall until paid, constitute a personal obligation to the City of Palos Verdes Estates by the person(s) who own the parcel of property on the date said special tax is due.

SECTION 7. Administration of Tax. The City Council by not less than three (3) affirmative votes, is empowered:

- (a) To establish the amount of the Law Enforcement Services Special Tax levy annually each fiscal year in amounts not to exceed the maximum amounts specified in Section 3 of this ordinance as is required to provide an adequate level of law enforcement services in the City in accord with the purposes set forth in this ordinance;
- (b) To sit as a Board of Equalization under procedures to be adopted by the City Council to equalize inequities and reduce hardships created by the literal application of this ordinance, and such shall be deemed an administrative remedy;
- (c) To annually provide an official Assessment Book designating the actual tax levy on each parcel of property and to place the same on file in the office of the City Clerk. In connection therewith, in those instances where building improvements are located on more than one lot within a parcel of property, the City Council may designate a single one of such lots as the lot upon which such building improvements shall be considered to be located for purposes of administering this ordinance;
- (d) To amend this ordinance as necessary to permit the Los Angeles County Tax Collector or any other duly designated public official to collect a special tax such as is levied by this ordinance in conjunction with other County taxes, or in order to assign duties established by this ordinance to other officers as otherwise permitted by law, or to modify procedures required by this ordinance, for the sole purpose of levying and/or collecting a special tax in an amount not to exceed that permitted by Section 3 of this ordinance to be used solely for the purposes permitted by Section 2 of this ordinance.

SECTION 8. Appropriations Limit Increase. Pursuant to Article XIII B of the California Constitution, the appropriations limit for the City of Palos Verdes Estates shall be increased by the maximum projected aggregate collection authorized by levy of this Law Enforcement Services Special Tax, as determined by Section 3 of this ordinance, in each of the years in which this ordinance remains in effect.

SECTION 9. Unexpended Revenue. The unexpended residue of any money raised by the City under this ordinance may only be (i) used in the succeeding year for the purposes stated in this ordinance by lowering the next year's tax by the amount unexpended, or (ii) returned to the taxpayers on the same pro rata basis as originally levied.

SECTION 10. Fiscal Accountability. A five member citizen committee comprised of members appointed

by the City Council must annually review and audit expenditures of revenues derived from the Law Enforcement Services Special Tax. The results must be included in the City's annual audit and reviewed by the City Council at a publicly noticed meeting.

SECTION 11. Severance Provisions. If any provision(s) of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person is held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect any other provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable. The City Council and the electorate by referendum do hereby declare that they would have adopted this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, part or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, clauses, phrases, parts or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 12. Effective Date; Expiration. If this ordinance is approved by at least two-thirds of those voters casting ballots on the measure at the election, then this ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days following the date the vote is declared by the City Council in accordance with Elections Code §9217. This ordinance will expire nine (9) years after the Effective Date, provided, however, that the provisions of this ordinance relating to the collection of the Law Enforcement Services Special Tax and/or the enforcement of any liens for a tax imposed hereunder (for fiscal years 2018-2019 through 2026-2027) have been completed.

SECTION 13. Amendment or Repeal. Notwithstanding the City Council's authority as provided in Section 3(d), upon becoming effective, this ordinance may only be amended or repealed by approval of two-thirds of the voters casting ballots on such amendment or repealed at a duly called initiative or referendum election.

Detach this stub before mailing back Vote-by-Mail Application

Detach Here



Detach Here

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES
340 PALOS VERDES DR WEST
PALOS VERDES ESTATES CA 90274-1299



Place a
First Class
Stamp
Here



DID YOU SIGN YOUR APPLICATION AND
PRINT YOUR RESIDENCE ADDRESS
ABOVE YOUR SIGNATURE?

FROM:

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NOTICE TO THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED VOTER:



If the polling place is not accessible to the physically handicapped voter, such voter is entitled to vote in one of the following ways:

1. A precinct board member shall take a regular ballot to the physically handicapped person at a place as near as possible to the polling place and which is accessible to such person, qualify that person to vote, and return the voted ballot to the polling place;
2. If it is impractical to vote a regular ballot outside the polling place, please use the attached application and apply for a Vote-by-Mail ballot.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
340 PALOS VERDES DR. WEST
PALOS VERDES ESTATES CA 90274-1299
310/ 378-0383
FAX 310/ 378-7820




PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 2259
Long Beach, CA

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19-505

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POLLING PLACE or Drop your Vote-by-Mail ballot off here 


APPLICATION TO "VOTE BY MAIL"
CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES
SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION - TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018
To obtain a Vote-by-Mail ballot, complete the information on this form. The elections official **MUST RECEIVE** this application by **April 3, 2018**

Print Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Residence Address: _____
(As Registered) Number and Street City, State, Zip Code

Mail My Ballot To: _____
(If different from above) Number and Street City, State, Zip Code

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:	
Precinct No. _____	Ballot Group No. _____
Date Issued _____	Date Returned _____
Ballot No. (optional) _____	

 **SIGNATURE** _____ _____ _____
Signature of Applicant (Must be signed to be processed) Date Daytime Phone No.

I have not applied for a Vote-by-Mail ballot for this election by any other means. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information I have provided on this application is true and correct.

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**POLLS OPEN AT 7 A.M.
AND CLOSE AT 8 P.M.**

**TAKE THIS SAMPLE BALLOT TO YOUR
POLLING PLACE FOR REFERENCE**

**POLLING PLACE: Your polling place may
have changed!**

See above for your polling place location.