



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

## LEGISLATIVE, FINANCE, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

R-17-32

March 7, 2017

### AGENDA ITEM 4

#### AGENDA ITEM

Board Compensation Legislation

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Receive board compensation report from staff and provide direction regarding legislative approaches, if any, which can be presented to the Board.

#### SUMMARY

At the January 11, 2017 Board Meeting, staff presented a variety of legislative items, including the issue of Board compensation, for the Board to consider whether to pursue further action. Board Members had raised the issue at a 2015 retreat because it had not been adjusted for several decades, District work and thus the Board and Committee meeting requirements have increased, and the local cost of living is extremely high relative to other parts of the state. The Board referred the item to the Legislative, Finance, and Public Affairs Committee (LFPAC) to investigate potential options that may be considered by the full Board as legislative action.

Staff will present data on District Board attendance trends, local city compensation and benefits trends, and data from a California Special Districts Association (CSDA) survey of California compensation-related codes for special districts for the LFPAC to consider. District Board compensation is governed by section 5536 of the California Public Resources Code (PRC) and would require legislative amendment if the LFPAC wishes to pursue a change to Board compensation in any way. The LFPAC Committee will consider the data, discuss, and recommend further action regarding legislative action, if any, which can be presented to the Board.

#### DISCUSSION

##### **District Board Compensation:**

At the January 15, 2015 Board retreat, a number of Board Members raised the issue of Board compensation for consideration because it had not been adjusted since 1984, District work and thus the Board and Committee meeting requirements have increased, and the cost of living is extremely high relative to other parts of the state. Staff recently presented a variety of legislative items, including the issue of Board compensation, for the Board to consider whether to pursue at the January 11, 2017 Board Meeting. The Board referred the compensation item to LFPAC to investigate potential options that may be considered by the full Board for legislative action.

District Board compensation rules are included under Section 5536 of the California Public Resources Code (PRC) (Attachment 1). Established in 1984, this section applies to nine Regional Park and/or Open Space Districts, of which Midpen is one. In general, it specifies that Board members are compensated \$100 per day in which they attend a meeting on Board business to a maximum of five meetings per month (\$500). It goes on to say that the Board may pass a resolution or ordinance that allows Board Members to participate in medical and dental plans available to permanent employees of the District on the same terms available to those District employees, or on terms and conditions as the Board may determine. The Board elected to provide this benefit to Board Members in 1999.

#### Analysis

To understand the degree to which Board members are utilizing the compensation opportunities afforded to them, an analysis of monthly Board stipend reports was performed. Over the last two years, Board Members attend an average of 3.4 Board-related meetings per month that are eligible for compensation according to Board stipend records. Table 1 provides a breakdown of the average number of compensable meetings per month, as well as individual monthly minimums and maximums over the 24-month period.

**Table 1: Summary of Board Monthly Attendance: 2015-16**

Ward	Board Member	Average	Min	Max
1	Siemens	3.3	1	6
2	Kishimoto	3.3	1	8
3	Cyr	3.9	2	7
4	Riffle	3.7	2	6
5	Hanko	3.0	1	5
6	Hassett	3.4	1	6
7	Harris	3.2	1	5

#### **Special District Survey:**

In 2008, CSDA performed a comprehensive survey of special district compensation broken down by district type (Attachment 2). All special districts in California have their Board's compensation defined by California state law. Staff has verified the information provided from 2008 and it appears that none of the applicable code sections has been updated since then.

#### Analysis

The CSDA survey results show a very wide variety of compensation afforded to special district Board Members. Most are defined in a similar way as the District – dollar amount per day (typically \$100) to a maximum number of eligible days (typically between four to six days). However, there are examples in the survey of several district types where compensation ranges from no compensation (i.e., Port Districts and Police Protections) to up to \$15,000 a year for Irrigation Districts. In most cases, necessary expenses are included.

In some cases, like water districts, the code also affords the district entity the ability to change their own Board compensation without legislation, but sets limits and defines processes around such changes. In 2015, the Santa Clara Valley Water District increased their compensation by

5% to its current amount of \$273.03 per day. This is in accordance with Sections 20200 – 20207 of the California Water Code (Attachment 3).

Rather than increase its per-meeting compensation, the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), which is covered by the same Public Resources Code section as Midpen (PRC 5536) amended this code section with legislation several years ago to allow them to have ten compensable meetings per month. District staff contacted EBRPD staff about this amendment, but EBRPD staff were unable to readily determine the history of this code change. It appears to have occurred prior to 1989, the last recorded year the code was updated in the state legislative database. Their staff noted that several of their Board members do hit the 10 compensable days each month, but it did vary month to month.

**Local City Survey:**

In order to provide a more complete comparison, local cities were contacted by staff to determine what compensation and benefits are available to sitting City Council Members. City Council Member compensation varies widely among jurisdictions in the vicinity of the District's Administrative Office in Los Altos (Attachment 3). Every jurisdiction surveyed also provides, in addition to monetary compensation, medical and dental benefits. In the case of Sunnyvale, City Council member salaries are tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) with a maximum increase limit of 5%.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

**CEQA COMPLIANCE**

This item is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.

**NEXT STEPS**

Based on the recommendations by members of LFPAC, staff will bring a legislative proposal to the Board for consideration.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Public Resources Code Section 5536
2. 2008 CSDA Special District Compensation Survey
3. Local jurisdiction compensation survey

Responsible Department Head:  
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Prepared by:  
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**State of California**

**PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE**

**Section 5536**

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5536. (a) The board shall establish rules for its proceedings.

(b) The board may provide, by ordinance or resolution, that each of its members may receive an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per day for each attendance at a meeting of the board. For purposes of this section, a meeting of the board includes, but is not limited to, closed sessions of the board, board field trips, district public hearings, or meetings of a committee of the board. The maximum compensation allowable to a board member on any given day shall be one hundred dollars (\$100). Board members shall not receive any other compensation for meetings, and no board member shall receive more than five hundred dollars (\$500) compensation under this section in any one calendar month, except that board members of the East Bay Regional Park District may receive compensation for not more than 10 days in any one calendar month. A board member may elect to waive the per diem. In addition, the board may provide, by ordinance or resolution, that each of its members not otherwise eligible for an employer-paid or partially employer-paid group medical or group dental plan, or both, may participate in any of those plans available to permanent employees of the district on the same terms available to those district employees or on terms and conditions as the board may determine. A board member who elects to participate in any plan may also elect to have the premium for the plan charged against his or her per diem and may further elect to waive the balance of the per diem.

(c) All vacancies on the board shall be filled in accordance with the requirements of Section 1780 of the Government Code, except that, in the case of vacancies caused by the creation of new wards or subdistricts, the directors shall, prior to the vacancies being filled, determine by lot, for the purpose of fixing the terms of the first directors to be elected to the wards or subdistricts, which ward or subdistrict shall have a four-year term and which ward or subdistrict shall have a two-year term. The persons who fill the vacancies caused by the establishment of new wards or subdistricts shall hold office until the next general election and until their successors are elected and qualified for the terms previously determined by lot.

(d) For purposes of this section, the determination of whether a director's activities on any specific day are compensable shall be made pursuant to Article 2.3 (commencing with Section 53232) of Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code.

(Amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 700, Sec. 18. Effective January 1, 2006.)



# ***Special Districts: Compensation for Directors and Trustees***

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## **The California Special Districts Association: Who we are**

The California Special Districts Association (CSDA) is a not-for-profit association that was formed in 1969 to ensure the continued existence of local, independent special districts. Special districts are a form of local government created by a local community to meet a specific need. When residents or landowners want new services or higher levels of existing services, they can form a district to pay for and administer them.

For nearly 40 years, CSDA has been offering its members cost-efficient programs and representation at the State Capitol and has a membership of over 1,000 organizations throughout California. We are the only statewide association representing all types of independent special districts including irrigation, water, park and recreation, cemetery, fire, police protection, library, utility, harbor, healthcare, mosquito abatement and vector control and community services districts, among many others.

CSDA provides education and training, insurance programs, legal advice, industry-wide litigation and public relations support, legislative advocacy, capital improvement and equipment financing, collateral design services, and, most importantly, current information that is crucial to a special districts' management and operational effectiveness. CSDA also works very hard to keep its members informed and up-to-date on current legislative issues and provides an opportunity to have a meaningful representation in the State Capitol.

### **Special Districts: Compensation for Directors and Trustees**

CSDA's *Special Districts: Compensation for Directors and Trustees* is a reference guide to the government codes and laws that govern the compensation of these officials to serve on special districts' boards. It is vital to understand the compensation methods and the procedures to adjust it to make sure that the public funds are administered properly and the public trust is held. This document, created by the CSDA Legislative Department, is meant to serve as a resource for board members and staff to quickly access where in the California codes compensation for the board of directors and trustees are directly identified, as well as procedures to adjust compensation.

The entries in *Special Districts: Compensation for Directors and Trustees* are excerpts from the various California codes that apply to that particular special district. Each entry contains a brief description of the type of special district, brief overview of the law, and the section number of the code where it is located.

Much of state law specifies that compensation, adjustments for compensation, or compensation for other necessary expenses incurred must be adopted by resolution by the board of directors. CSDA recommends, regardless of whether state law specifies, that all forms of compensation authorized by state law be adopted by resolution by the majority of the members of the board.

This publication was produced by the CSDA Legislative Department.

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***The items in this Guide are designed to provide general direction in various areas and are not meant to be legal advice. It is always recommended that an attorney be consulted with any specific questions.***

<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COMPENSATION</b>	<b>CODE SECTION</b>	<b>ADJUSTING COMPENSATION</b>
<b>Air Quality Management Districts/Air Pollution Control Districts</b>		(See CSDA's supplemental reference for compensation for directors and trustees for Air Pollution Control Districts.)		
<b>Airport Districts</b>	Assists in the development of airports, spaceports, and air navigation facilities.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to four meetings in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Public Utilities Code Section 22407</i>	
<b>California Water Districts</b>	Constructs, manages, and repairs works for efficient production, storage, and distribution of water for a variety of purposes.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six days in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Water Code Section 34741</i>	May adjust compensation as authorized by <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>California Water Storage Districts</b>	Delivers water and supplies energy to different users, and provides banking and storage units for groundwater.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six days in one month, ten cents for each mile traveled from residence to office, and other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Water Code Section 40355</i>	May adjust compensation as authorized by <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Cemetery Districts (See "Public Cemetery Districts")</b>				
<b>Citrus Pest Districts</b>	Controls and eradicates citrus pests.	Not entitled to any compensation, but may receive necessary expenses incurred for duties.	<i>Food and Agricultural Code Section 8508</i>	

<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COMPENSATION</b>	<b>CODE SECTION</b>	<b>ADJUSTING COMPENSATION</b>
<b>Community Services Districts</b>	Provides more than the various services that other specific districts provide.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six days in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Government Code Section 61047</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Cotton Pests Abatement Districts</b>	Controls and prevents introduction of pests, and oversees cotton plants in areas that are at risk of pests.	Compensated for all necessary expenses incurred for the performance of duties.	<i>Food and Agriculture Code Section 6063</i>	
<b>County Sanitation Districts</b>	Provides wastewater collection services to ensure and protect public health and the environment.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six days in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Health and Safety Code Section 4733</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>County Water Districts</b>	Develops regulations for the distribution and consumption of water and stores water for future needs.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six days in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Water Code Section 30507</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>County Drainage Districts</b>	This district was established by six acts, the first one in 1885. They can transfer their duties to flood control districts.	Up to \$10 for each day of attending meetings, limited to three meetings in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Water Code Section 56031</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Fire Protection Districts</b>	Provides fire protection and other emergency services.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to four meetings in one month.	<i>Health and Safety Code Section 13857</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Geological Hazard Abatement Districts</b>	Prevents, controls, and abates geological areas in the district.	Nothing referenced in codes.	<i>Public Resources Code Section 26500</i>	



<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COMPENSATION</b>	<b>CODE SECTION</b>	<b>ADJUSTING COMPENSATION</b>
<b>Harbor Districts</b>	Manages any bay, harbor, inlet, river, channel, etc in which tides are affected by the Pacific Ocean.	Serve without compensation till district receives a gross income of \$20,000. Up to \$600 per month, and all other necessary expenses.	<i>Harbors &amp; Navigation Code Section 6060</i>	
<b>Healthcare/ Hospital Districts</b>	Assists in the efficient operation of one or more healthcare facilities.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to five meetings in one month, and all necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Health and Safety Code Section 32103</i>	
<b>Irrigation Districts</b>	Operates facilities for power generation, and sells electrical power.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six days in one month. For districts that produce/distribute electrical power—not to exceed \$100 per day, \$600 per month, \$15,000 a year. All other expenses incurred.	<i>Water Code Section 21166</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Levee Districts</b>	Protects the district's land from overflow by constructing, maintaining, and repairing the necessary infrastructure.	Compensated for services necessarily required and performed, as determined by the board and all necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Water Code Section 70078</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Library Districts</b>	Equips and maintains a public library in order to exhibit knowledge in a variety of areas.	Nothing referenced in codes.	<i>Education Code Section 19400</i>	

<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COMPENSATION</b>	<b>CODE SECTION</b>	<b>ADJUSTING COMPENSATION</b>
<b>Library and Museums in Unincorporated Towns and Villages Districts</b>	Generally maintains and services libraries and museums in unincorporated towns and villages.	Nothing referenced in codes.	<i>Education Code Section 19600</i>	
<b>Memorial Districts</b>	Maintains memorial halls, assembly halls, and other pertinent buildings/facilities for use by people and organizations.	Serve without compensation but are entitled to necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Military and Veterans Code Section 1197</i>	
<b>Mosquito Abatement and Vector Control Districts</b>	Controls, maintains, and abates mosquitoes and other vectors to protect public health.	Serve without compensation but are entitled to necessary expenses incurred. Board may opt to provide a \$100 allowance in lieu of paying for actual expenses.	<i>Health and Safety Code Section 2030</i>	
<b>Municipal Utility Districts</b>	Provides electricity, solid waste resource recovery, water and/or sewage disposal services within the district.	\$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six meetings in one month. Boards with seven directors: up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six days in one month, or up to \$600 per month, and any necessary expenses incurred. Boards that operate an electric distribution system for at least eight years and has a population of 250,000 or more: up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to 10 days in a month and any necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Public Utilities Code Section 11908-11908.2</i>	Specific to boards with seven directors, and specific to boards that operate an electric distribution system for at least eight years and has a population of 250,000 or more, may adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Public Utilities Code Section 11908.1 (b) and Public Utilities Code Section 11908.2</i> .

<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COMPENSATION</b>	<b>CODE SECTION</b>	<b>ADJUSTING COMPENSATION</b>
<b>Pest Abatement Districts</b>	Controls and prevents the introduction of pests.	Serve without compensation but are entitled to necessary expenses incurred. Board may opt to provide a \$100 allowance in lieu of paying for actual expenses.	<i>Health and Safety Code Section 2851</i>	
<b>Police Protection Districts</b>	Provides security and protection for the community in that district.	Serve without compensation.	<i>Health and Safety Code Section 20069</i>	
<b>Port Districts</b>	Maintains and secures the ports.	Serve without salary or compensation.	<i>Harbors and Navigations Code Section 6251</i>	
<b>Public Cemetery Districts</b>	Maintains public cemeteries in communities as necessary.	Up to \$100 for each meeting of the board, limited to four meetings in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Health and Safety Code Section 9031</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Public Utility Districts</b>	Maintains the infrastructure to provide electricity, natural gas, water, etc. to the community.	Up to \$4,800 a year or \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to 10 days in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Public Utilities Code Section 16002</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Reclamation Districts</b>	Reclaims and maintains land that is at risk of flooding for a variety of purposes.	Compensation for services necessarily performed as determined by the board, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Water Code Section 50605</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Recreation and Park Districts</b>	Forms recreation and park districts and are responsible for maintaining them.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, not to exceed \$500 for one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Public Resources Code Section 5784.15</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>

<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COMPENSATION</b>	<b>CODE SECTION</b>	<b>ADJUSTING COMPENSATION</b>
<b>Regional Park and/or Open Space Districts</b>	Provides recreational opportunities, and easier access to facilities	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, not to exceed \$500 per month <i>or</i> for East Bay Regional Park District up to 10 meetings per month. In addition, compensation for actual necessary traveling and incidental expenses incurred.	<i>Public Resources Code Section 5536-5536.5</i>	
<b>Resort Improvement Districts</b>	Constructs and finances public improvements to meet the needs of specific areas.	Up to \$25 for each day of attending board meetings and 15 cents per mile of traveling to those meetings, limited to two days in one month. In addition, compensation for duties performed other than attending board meetings, up to \$25 per day, limited to five days in one month with an exception for the president, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Public Resources Code Section 13041</i>	
<b>Resource Conservation Districts</b>	Manages soil erosion, improves land capabilities, conducts surveys and research for the betterment of the area.	Not entitled to any compensation, but may receive necessary expenses incurred for duties which shall be fixed by the board.	<i>Public Resources Code Section 9303</i>	
<b>River Port Districts</b>	Oversees port construction and development.	Serve without salary or compensation but are entitled to necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Harbors and Navigation Code Section 6836</i>	

<b>SPECIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COMPENSATION</b>	<b>CODE SECTION</b>	<b>ADJUSTING COMPENSATION</b>
<b>Sanitary Districts</b>	Manages all waste management systems.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six meetings in one month and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Health and Safety Code Section 6489</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Small Craft Harbor Districts</b>	Governs and manages harbors.	Up to \$50 for each day of attending meetings, limited to four meetings in one month and all other expenses incurred.	<i>Harbors and Navigation Code Section 7047</i>	
<b>Water Conservation Districts</b>	Maintains, surveys, and researches water supplies.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six days in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Water Code Section 74208</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>
<b>Water Replenishment Districts</b>	Controls ground water supply for the community.	Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, limited to six days in one month, and all other necessary expenses incurred.	<i>Water Code Section 60143</i>	May adjust compensation pursuant to <i>Water Code Section 20200-20207</i>

*Water Code Section 20200-20207* is often cross-referenced by special districts' principle acts in regards to adjusting compensation for directors and trustees. This section lays out the process through which districts can adjust compensation for their board of directors and trustees.

20200. As used in this chapter, "water district" means any district or other political subdivision, other than a city or county, a primary function of which is the irrigation, reclamation, or drainage of land or the diversion, storage, management, or distribution of water primarily for domestic, municipal, agricultural, industrial, recreation, fish and wildlife enhancement, flood control, or power production purposes. "Water districts" include, but are not limited to, irrigation districts, county water districts, California water districts, water storage districts, reclamation districts, county waterworks districts, drainage districts, water replenishment districts, levee districts, municipal water districts, water conservation districts, community services districts, water management districts, flood control districts, flood control and floodwater conservation districts, flood control and water conservation districts, water management agencies, water agencies, and public utility districts formed pursuant to Division 7 (commencing with Section 15501) of the Public Utilities Code.

20201. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the governing board of any water district may, by ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter, provide compensation to members of the governing board, unless any compensation is prohibited by its principal act, in an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per day for each day's attendance at meetings of the board, or for each day's service rendered as a member of the board by request of the board, and may, by ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter, in accordance with Section 20202, increase the compensation received by members of the governing board above the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) per day.

It is the intent of the Legislature that any future increase in compensation received by members of the governing board of a water district be authorized by an ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter and not by an act of the Legislature. For purposes of this section, the determination of whether a director's activities on any specific day are compensable shall be made pursuant to Article 2.3 (commencing with Section 53232) of Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code.

20201.5. Reimbursement for expenses of members of a governing board of a water district is subject to Sections 53232.2 and 53232.3 of the Government Code.

20202. In any ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter to increase the amount of compensation which may be received by members of the governing board of a water district above the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) per day, the increase may not exceed an amount equal to 5 percent, for each calendar year following the operative date of the last adjustment, of the compensation which is received when the ordinance is adopted. No ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter shall authorize compensation for more than a total of 10 days in any calendar month.

20203. Any water district described in Section 20201 is authorized to adopt ordinances pursuant to this chapter. No ordinance shall be adopted pursuant to this chapter except following a public hearing. Notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation pursuant to Section 6066 of the Government Code.

20204. An ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter shall become effective 60 days from the date of its final passage. The voters of any water district shall have the right, as provided in this chapter, to petition for referendum on any ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter.

20205. If a petition protesting against the adoption of the ordinance is presented to the governing board of the water district prior to the effective date of the ordinance, the ordinance shall be suspended and the governing board shall reconsider the ordinance. If the number of votes cast for all candidates for Governor at the last gubernatorial election within the boundaries of the water district exceeds 500,000, the ordinance is subject to referendum upon presentation of a petition bearing signatures of at least 5 percent of the entire vote cast within the boundaries of the water district for all candidates for Governor at the last gubernatorial election. If the number of votes cast for all candidates for Governor at the last gubernatorial election within the boundaries of the water district is less than 500,000, the ordinance is subject to referendum upon presentation of a petition bearing signatures of at least 10 percent of the entire vote cast within the boundaries of the water district for all candidates for Governor at the last gubernatorial election.

20206. If the governing board does not entirely repeal the ordinance against which a petition is filed, the governing board shall submit the ordinance to the voters either at a regular election or a special election called for the purpose. The ordinance shall not become effective unless and until a majority of the votes cast at the election are cast in favor of it. If the ordinance is not approved by the voters, no new ordinance may be adopted by the governing board pursuant to this chapter for at least one year following the date of the election.

20207. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the provisions of the Elections Code applicable to the right of referendum on legislative acts of districts shall govern the procedure on ordinances against which a petition is filed.

Local City Council Compensation		
Organization	Compensation Rate	Other Benefits/Notes
Los Altos	\$300/month	<b>Dental:</b> reimbursement of certain dental expenses, not exceeding \$1,662/yr. <b>Medical:</b> option for City health plan; city contributes max \$662.41. Can elect to enroll dependents, though City will not contribute toward premium for dependent. Council member responsible for balance if exceeds \$662.41 premium. At end of service, may elect to enter COBRA, but member responsible for all individual costs related to that program
Los Gatos	\$150/month	Plus: \$50 auto allowance per month, for a total compensation of \$2,400 per year. Medical and dental provided and subsidized to the same level as regular employees.
Mountain View	\$1,000/month	(Charter) 7.1. Compensation: monthly salary, mayor receives add'l 25%. - If don't attend all meetings, salary reduced \$25 for each meeting not attended, unless absent on official duty w/ consent/order of council. - May receive add'l medical, dental & life insurance by City. - Monthly salary adjusted annually based on the lesser of the San Francisco Bay Area Consumer Price Index for urban wage earners or the average cost-of-living adjustment granted to the City's miscellaneous employee bargaining groups. The annual adjustment could not exceed five percent (5%) per year. (Increased from \$600 to \$1000 w/in last year).
Palo Alto	\$1,000.13/month	Council stipend increased from \$600 to \$1000. Mayor \$1150. Vice-Mayor \$1100. Medical and dental provided.
Sunnyvale	\$2,088.64/month	Section 603. Compensation: - Reimbursement for necessary traveling and other expenses actually incurred when on official duty - <b>Salary reduced by the sum equivalent to 20% of the month's salary for each meeting not attended</b> unless he/she is absent on official duty with the consent of or on order of the City Council or is granted an excused absence by the City Council, or unless he/she is on personal leave. A member of the City Council shall be permitted <b>4 personal leave days</b> per calendar year. - Cost of living adjustment: the compensation of the Council and Mayor shall increase by a percentage equal to the percentage increase in the preceding October's 12-month rolling average of the Consumer Price Index-Urban(CPI-U), or successor index, for San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, as determined by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Consumers. In no event shall the CPI U compensation adjustment exceed 5% per year, or result in a compensation decrease. The CPI-U base index year shall be calendar year 2012.
Santa Clara Valley Water District	\$273.03/day	In accordance with California Water Code § 20200 (subject to statutory 10 days per month) for meetings, events and activities outlined in Board Governance Policy GP-10.6.1. The current per diem meeting compensation amount was adopted by the Board on November 24, 2015 in Ordinance No. 15-01, providing for a 5% increase in compensation of Directors of Santa Clara Valley Water District pursuant to Chapter 2, Division 10, California Water Code.
Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority	\$75/meeting	Public Resources Code Section 35124. Not to exceed 2 meetings per month. No benefits.
East Bay Regional Open Space District	\$100/meeting	Public Resources Code Section 5536. Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, not to exceed <b>\$1000</b> per month. May participate in EBRPD employee group plans
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District	\$100/meeting	Public Resources Code Section 5536. Up to \$100 for each day of attending meetings, not to exceed <b>\$500</b> per month. May participate in MROSD employee group plans