

| City/District | Mover, Seconder First | Alpha | Left to Right | Seniority | Rotation | Random | Electronic Voting Board | Other | Mayor Pro Tem First | Mayor Pro Tem Next to Last | Mayor First | Mayor Last | Written Policy | No Written Policy | Comments |
|--|-----------------------------|-------|------------------|-----------|----------|--------|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Aliso Viejo | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | I call the Councilmembers in alphabetical order, mayor pro tem, then mayor. It is not specified in Council meeting procedures. |
| Antioch | | | X | | | | | | | | | X | | X | I call the roll call in the order of seating from left to right with the Mayor being the last called. We’ve been doing that since 1872 as a matter of custom, but nothing in writing. |
| Arcadia | X | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | X | in Arcadia, we do not have a voting policy, but the roll call order is whoever made the motion, second, alpha order, then the Mayor last. |
| Atwater | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | X | We do random with the Mayor always being last. |
| Baldwin Park | X | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | When we do a roll call vote, we always call the Mayor last as well. When we do roll call, I go alphabetically from council to vice to mayor. Roll call vote is motioner, seconder, council members alphabetically with vice and Mayor voting last (obviously depending on who made the motion). |
| Banning | | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | | We call each council member in alphabetical name by last name then the Mayor last. |
| Barstow | | | | X | | | | | | X | | X | | | In the City of Barstow, the Mayor is last, Mayor Pro Tem second to last and then I do the regular Council Members by seniority. |
| Bell Gardens | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | Our city doesn’t have a voting policy but our council roll call goes in alphabetical order, then vice mayor, then mayor last. |
| Belmont | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | We don’t do “roll call”, per se. We do a voice vote, all together. This saves time and avoids the situation where one councilmember might vote opposite of another simply because he/she doesn’t like him/her. Believe it or not, that happened here years ago. Our then-city attorney opined that a voice vote constitutes “roll call” for purposes of votes that require a roll call. Every once in awhile the mayor will call for a separate roll call (on important/critical/contentious matters). Our planning commission still does individual voting, and they rotate the order. It’s very silly to watch. The secretary has to have a different card for each vote to be sure it gets mixed up. They implemented this under a different set of commissioners, and they should think about changing it. |
| Calistoga | X | | | | | X | | | | | | X | | X | In Calistoga, the roll call vote is done in the order of who Moved and Seconded the item – go first and second, with the Mayor going last. The other 2 councilmembers are called randomly. The only issue is when the Mayor moves the item, the I put the Vice Mayor last. There is nothing in writing regarding this. It’s just our practice. |
| Canyon Lake | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | We always call the Council Members first by alphabetical order (based on last name), then the Mayor Pro Tem, and then the Mayor. That is also how we list the names on the agenda for roll call, how we list it on stationary, etc. |
| Capitola | | | X | | | | | | | | | X | | X | Capitola (pop +-10K) does seating order left to right for council members, with mayor last. No policy. |
| Carpinteria | | | | | X | | | | | | | X | | | We don’t have a policy but when I was hired the past practice was to rotate votes among councilmembers and vice mayor with mayor always called last. |
| Central Contra Costa Sanitary District | | | X | | | | | | | | | X | | X | There are no rules or regulations and everyone does it a little differently. When I call the initial roll, I call left to right on where they are sitting and Board President last and I have it on a card. When they ask for roll call vote, I use the same card. Some people do Maker, Seconder, then alpha. That is a little hard to pull out of your hat on the spur of the moment. Some rotate the order so it is not always the same..... it really varied with no hard and fast rule. I think the main thing is to be consistent and be able to stand by your reasoning. |
| Chico | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | The City of Chico has 7 Councilmember. We call roll in alphabetical order, then the Vice Mayor, and the Mayor is last. I don’t believe we have a policy. |
| Coachella | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | We call roll for all votes in alphabetical order, then Mayor Pro Tem, and then Mayor. |
| Crescent City | | | | | X | | | | | X | | X | | X | We do not have a policy but here is what I do: I rotate. I choose a Council member who did not make the motion or second, then the other who did not assuming there is another, then take up the rest leaving Pro Tem for second to last and Mayor for last. They seem to like the fact that there is not a single person who is continually responsible for setting the "tone" of the vote. |
| Cupertino | | | X | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | I don’t know of any rules regarding roll call. I just start with the Councilmember at the far end of the dais, then move to the other end closest to me, then the one next to that person, Vice Mayor, Mayor. My Deputy does them in a different order when she goes. The only thing we always do, is call Councilmembers first, then Vice Mayor, and then Mayor. |
| Fort Bragg | | X | | | | | | | X | | | X | | | Vice Mayor first, Councilmembers in alpha order, Mayor last. |
| Grand Terrace | | | | X | | | | | | X | | X | | | The City of Grand Terrace calls roll as follows: Council Members - in order of seniority, Mayor Pro Tem, Mayor. |
| Half Moon Bay | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | I do order of roll call. In Malibu, we did maker, seconder, then order of roll call. |
| Hayward | | | X | | | | | | | | | X | | | We have always called the Mayor last for roll call and voice call vote. The other members are called in the order they are sitting at the dais. |
| Hughson | | | X | | | | | | | | | X | | X | In our city I start from left to right with the Mayor last. We don’t have a voting policy. |
| Huntington Park | | | | X | | | | | | X | | X | | | I go according to seniority with the Council Members, then the Vice Mayor and Mayor last. |
| Irvine | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | Nothing formal, but alpha order, Mayor Pro Tem and Mayor last. |
| La Quinta | | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | | LQ method: councilmembers in alpha order, Mayor last. No special arrangement for Mayor Pro Tem. |
| Lake Elsinor | X | | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | I can do it depending the mood ☺ I usually do the maker and second first, then the remaining Council Members, Vice- Mayor and Mayor. I have done it other places where it went around the dais based on the maker and second, but Mayor is always last. |

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| Lawndale | | | | X | | | | | X | | | X | | | The order we use is... mayor pro tem, councilmembers in order of presumed succession to the position of mayor pro tem, mayor. That also somewhat coincides with their seating arrangement. The MPT sits to the mayor's left, the next member called is the one sitting at the mayor's right, then the other two councilmembers, still moving to the right, and finally back to the center with the mayor. Each year, when the MPT is selected, everyone shifts seats towards the left, with the outgoing MPT going back to the "end of the line". Does that even make sense? |
| Lemoore | X | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | | City Council votes.....Council Member who made motion, Council Member who seconded motion, alpha of remaining three Council Members with Mayor coming in last as he is the one doing the roll call. |
| Live Oak | | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | Currently, our mayor sits smackdab in the middle of the Council and he votes 3rd out of 5th. There really is no rhyme or reason as to where Council sits. |
| Loma Linda | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | Here at the City of Loma Linda we have an electronic board that is turned on after all councilmembers have voted (they have buttons at the seat to vote or abstain). |
| Lompoc | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | We have a light up board and I do not call roll for any votes. |
| Los Alamitos | | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | | We do the Council Members in ABC order, then Mayor Pro Tem and Mayor is last. We had a Mayor once that wanted us to switch it up every meeting for every vote and we did. |
| Malibu | X | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | We roll call motion>second>Council in alphabetical order>Mayor Pro Tem>Mayor. |
| Monrovia | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | At some point I believe the former City Clerk sometimes rotated the order, so that nobody was always "on the hook" to vote first. When I did it as Deputy, one staff person called me out on it and thought it was weird. He was probably just paying more attention because it was me. For my own peace of mind, I do Councilmembers first, alphabetically, Mayor Pro Tem, then Mayor. Our Mayor is not a tie breaker, but it's just how we've always done it. But I do somethings think we should mix it up – I would still do MPT and Mayor last, though. Not sure why. |
| Montclair | | | | X | | | | | | X | | X | | X | We do Council first, in order from newest to most senior member, and then Mayor Pro Tem, and then Mayor last. We have no written policy. Just as you, we've referenced how it's been done in the past. I never thought about the Mayor being the tie breaker vote, but that is a good justification for them to go last. |
| Morgan Hill | | | X | | | | | | | | X | | | X | We do not have a written policy, but, we always call the mayor first, then the remaining council members in the order they are seated. |
| Mountain View | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | We call in Councilmembers in alphabetical order, Vice Mayor and then the Mayor. |
| Mt. Shasta | | | X | | | | | | | | | X | | | I call the roll from left to right, with the Mayor always going last. I did this the same way in another town I worked in as well. |
| Norwalk | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | I start with council in alpha order followed by vice mayor and mayor. No policy. |
| Oakdale | X | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | X | The City of Oakdale does not have a policy; however the Mayor has always been called upon last. When I became City Clerk I would call the roll in alphabetical order. After a couple of months I was advised by the City Manager that the City Council would like the roll call called in a rotating manner. I now begin with the Council Member who made the motion, then to the member who seconded the action then in alphabetical order. |
| Oakley | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | We use alphabetical order when we make any reference to votes. |
| Ontario | | | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | I agree that it is up to the individual agency. I have been in agencies that called Council Members alphabetically and then the Mayor; and my current city does Council Members in order of longevity, longest serving to newest and then the Mayor. I have never seen a formal policy. |
| Piedmont | | | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | We have nothing written, but it goes in seating order with the Mayor last. If the seating is in this order: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, with the Mayor at position 3 and the Vice Mayor at position 2, the voting is in the following order 5, 4, 1, 2, 3. Generally, the most junior member is seated at position 5. |
| Pismo Beach | X | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | We call the maker of the motion, then the seconder of the motion, then any remaining Council Members in alpha order by last name, then Vice Mayor, then Mayor. If the Vice Mayor or Mayor has moved or seconded the motion, then we just move them up in the order accordingly. As I recall, this is how I was used to doing it other places, and how our previous clerk here did it. But there's no particular reason for it – other than that it gives the Mayor the chance to break a tie, should there be one. |
| Pleasanton | | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | | The City of Pleasanton starts with the councilmembers in alphabetical order and ends with the Mayor or Vice Mayor if the Mayor is absent. |
| Porterville | | | X | | | | | | | X | | X | | | I have always just gone from my left to right and call out whomever the Vice Mayor and Mayor are last. I was never told there was a particular way to do it and no one has ever complained about it. |
| Rancho Mirage | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | We start with Council in alphabetical order, then Mayor Pro Tem, and Mayor last. |
| Rio Vista | X | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | What we do is call the roll in this order: 1. Person who makes the motion first; 2. Person who seconds the motion second; 3. Roll call thereafter in alphabetical order. |

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| Rohnert Park | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | In Rohnert Park we do it alphabetical and then vice mayor and then mayor. RP is 53 years old. I used to be the Clerk for the City of Ukiah which was formed in the 1800s. They had a reason for how the vote was called by seniority and then vice mayor and mayor. The least senior member of council went first. This was to help the newest member vote with little influence of how the more senior members would vote...allowing more a vote your conscious rather than how your peers are voting. The vice mayor and then the mayor were last. I like the way Ukiah did it because there was purpose behind the process. |
| Roseville | | X | | | | | | | X | | | X | | X | The City of Roseville follows the same protocol as Fort Bragg. We start with the Vice Mayor, then Councilmembers and end with the Mayor. We don't have a voting policy. It's been done that way since I started 20 years ago. |
| Sacramento | | | | | | | | X | | | | X | | | We have districts so we go by districts with Mayor last. |
| San Carlos | | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | X | Hi June. I call councilmembers in alphabetical order and the mayor is always last. We don't have a policy, but it's been our practice for as far back as our records go! |
| Santa Maria | X | | | | X | | | | | | | X | | X | Santa Maria uses a rotation system, with the Mayor last. The roll call is called first with the motion maker, followed by the second, then the other two Councilmembers, and lastly the Mayor. I always try to change up the other two Councilmembers if the first and second are successively voting on other items, that are not always voting in the same order. We have no formal policy. It is just past practice, again as to not appear they are voting in order. |
| Santa Monica | | | | | X | | | | | | | X | | | My Council votes in rotating seating order with the Mayor always last. So each votes goes left to right, then right to left, with the Mayor last. |
| Santa Rosa | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | In both my previous experiences as the Clerk and Analyst to the Clerk, we have used the voting system. There are no legal basis for the sequence of calling the vote. I would look into a simple voting system that would eliminate you from calling the vote. |
| Signal Hill | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | City Clerk calls the roll call vote: Council Members first from the bottom of the alphabet, forward. Vice Mayor. Mayor. |
| South Lake Tahoe | | | X | | | | X | | | | | | | | We use an electronic voting system but if it fails the Clerk calls roll in the order they sit on the dais. We have no official policy on order of voting but I think if the Mayor asked to be called last the Clerk would follow the request. |
| South Pasadena | X | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | In the three cities I worked as a City Clerk – I've been able to get the Councils to use the method my former boss taught me: Motion Maker, Second, Alpha Order by Council Member, Mayor Pro Tem, Mayor. |
| Stanton | | | | | X | | | | | | | | X | | Our "Rules of Order" adopted by the City Council, dictates the following: 7.3 ORDER OF ROLL CALL VOTE. When calling the roll on motions the following order shall be used: Rotation. |
| Stockton | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | In Stockton, we call Council in alpha order then Vice Mayor and Mayor. |
| Sunnyvale | | | | | | X | X | | | | | | | X | We only do Roll Call Votes when we have a Councilmember teleconferencing to a meeting or when our voting system isn't working. We don't have a written policy in place for it, but we call the Councilmembers in random order. I use random.org to create random lists of the members. It works great for us. |
| Torrance | | X | | | | | | | | | | X | X | | We call the Council members alphabetically and the Mayor last. Council Rules of Order state: SECTION 4.2 RECORDING VOTES: When a vote on any matter is called for, the City Clerk shall call the roll, and each member who is present shall be recorded as voting YES, unless when the member's name is called the answer is NO and except as provided in Section 4.3. On a tie vote, the motion is lost. The vote shall be taken in alphabetical order with the Mayor voting last. The Mayor shall announce the result of the vote and then announce the next order of business. |
| Tracy | X | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | | City of Tracy calls out the maker of the motion 1st, the 2nd following and then alpha order of the other two and Mayor last. |
| Vacaville | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | Our order is Councilmembers first, in alphabetical order, Vice Mayor, and Mayor last. |
| Walnut | | X | | | | | | | | | X | | | | The order in which do our roll is Mayor, Mayor protem, and alphabetical order for remaining council. |
| Weed | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | I use alpha order. |
| West Hollywood | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | We do it alphabetically for the Councilmembers followed by the Mayor Pro Tempore and finally the Mayor. |
| Westlake Village | | | | X | | | | | | X | | X | | X | We do not have a policy on voting order. We call as follows: Councilmember (3rd in line to be Mayor Pro Tem); Councilmember (2nd in line to be Mayor Pro Tem); Councilmember (next in line to be Mayor Pro Tem); Mayor Pro Tem; Mayor. The order of our Council is based on votes received when last elected. |
| Whittier | | | X | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | Whittier's policy, which is long standing practice but not formally adopted by the Council, is to call the roll across the dais for Council Members, followed by the Mayor Pro Tem, and Mayor last |
| Wildomar | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | We don't have a policy but I have always called the Council Member alphabetically by last name, then the Mayor Pro Tem, then the Mayor. |
| Windsor | | X | | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | Windsor does not have a formal written policy. We were simply doing alphabetical order, then within the last two years we do alphabetical, then by title, in the following order: Councilmember, Councilmember, Councilmember, Vice Mayor, Mayor. |
| Winters | | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | X | I really don't know of any proper order other than the Mayor last. That is what we do. Councilmembers alphabetically and then the Mayor. |
| Yuba City | X | X | | | | | | | | | | X | | | The first one we call is the councilmember who makes the motion, then the Councilmember who seconds, then the last two in alpha order and then the Mayor. |
| TOTALS | 13 | 39 | 12 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 31 | 2 | 59 | 2 | 29 | |