FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Which seats are up for election this year?

The Mayor's seat, District 2, and District 4 Council seats are up for election this year.

2. May I file to run for Mayor and a Council seat at the same time?

No. You may not file nomination papers to run for both Mayor and a Council seat on the same ballot.

3. Do I have to be a registered voter to run for the Mayor's seat or a Council seat?

Yes, you must be a registered voter of the City of Moreno Valley at the time you pick up your nomination papers, but note that you also have to be a resident of the geographical area of the applicable District if you are running for a Council seat.

4. How do I find out which Council District I live in?

You can see the geographical areas of each District at the following link: New District Boundaries - Find Your Council District: (arcgis.com).

5. Do I have to identify or disclose my party affiliation at any point to run for the Mayor's seat or Council seat?

No. State law prohibits political party identification in municipal elections since the Mayor's seat and each Council seat are considered to be nonpartisan offices.

6. How do I begin the process for running a campaign to run for Mayor or for a Council seat?

You must pick up nomination papers, complete them and submit them to the City Office during the nomination period.

7. Where do I pick up the nomination papers to run for Mayor or a Council seat?

Nomination papers may be picked up at the Moreno Valley City Clerk's Office at Valley City Hall, located at 14177 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley, Monday through Thursday between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

8. When may I pick up nomination papers to run for Mayor or a Council seat?

You may pick up nomination papers commencing July 13, 2026, through August 7, 2026, Monday through Thursday between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

9. Do I need to make an appointment to pick up nomination papers to run for Mayor or a Council seat?

Appointments are strongly encouraged so that the City Clerk's Office can be prepared to have someone available to meet with you to address any questions you may have about the nomination process.

10. May I have someone else pick up nomination papers for me to run for Mayor or a Council seat?

Yes. However, if you pick up the nomination papers yourself, you will have the opportunity to ask questions about the nomination process. Preferably, if you anticipate that you will have questions, you are strongly encouraged to make an appointment to pick up the nomination papers so that the City Clerk's Office can be prepared to have someone available to meet with you to address any questions you may have about the nomination process.

11. Do I have to pay any sort of fee to pick up nomination papers to run for Mayor or a Council seat?

No, but as described below, you will have to pay a $25.00 candidate's filing fee (as set forth below) at the time you submit your completed nomination papers to the City Clerk's Office.

12. Where do I submit my completed nomination papers to run for Mayor or a Council seat?

Nomination papers must be submitted to the Moreno Valley City Clerk's Office at Moreno Valley City Hall, located at 14177 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley, Monday through Thursday between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

13. When is the deadline for filing nomination papers to run for Mayor or a Council seat?

You must submit your completed nomination papers to the Moreno Valley City Clerk's Office at Moreno Valley City Hall, located at 14177 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley, no later than 4:30 p.m. on August 7, 2026. However, if either the incumbent Mayor or incumbent District 1 Council Member chooses not to run by the deadline

for filing nomination papers, the filing deadline will be extended for an additional five calendar days.

14. Are there any requirements regarding the person who circulates my nomination petition?

Yes, every nomination petition shall include an affidavit of the person who circulated it, who must be at least 18 years of age, to the effect that he or she witnessed the signatures being written and knows that they are the signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be.

15. How many signatures do I need to obtain on my nomination petition in order to have my name placed on the ballot to run for Mayor or a Council seat?

You will need at least 20 valid and non-duplicative signatures, but no more than 30.

16. Who may sign a nomination petition for the Mayor's seat?

Anyone who is a registered voter of the City of Moreno Valley, regardless of the District they reside in, may sign the nomination petition for a candidate for the Mayor's seat.

17. Who may sign a nomination petition for a Council seat?

Anyone (including you and your family members) who is a registered voter of the City of Moreno Valley and who resides in the same District as the respective Council seat candidate, may sign the respective candidate's nomination petition.

18. May a voter sign a petition for Council seat and a petition for the Mayor's seat?

Yes. An eligible voter may sign a petition for the Mayor's seat and a petition for a Council seat which will not be deemed invalid as a duplicate signature.

19. What happens if a voter signs my nomination petition and another candidate's nomination petition for the same seat I am seeking?

The signature on the first nomination petition signed by such a voter will be recognized as a valid signature, but any subsequent signatures by the same voter contained in any other nomination petitions for the same seat will not be recognized as being valid for purposes of counting the number of signatures.

20. What happens if a voter who signs my nomination petition is a registered voter in Moreno Valley, but does not live in the District I seek to represent?

This signature would be considered invalid since the voter must be both a registered voter of the City of Moreno Valley and reside in the District you seek to represent.

21. Are there any particular signing requirements I should be aware of?

The signatures on each nomination petition shall be appended on the same sheet of paper, and each signer shall add his or her place of residence, giving the street and number, if any, or another designation of his or her place of residence, so as to enable its location to be readily ascertained.

22. What happens if I do not have the requisite number of valid signatures on my nomination petition when I submit my nomination papers?

If your nomination papers are filed sufficiently before the close of the nomination period and the City Clerk determines that your nomination petition does not contain the required number of valid signatures, you may be given an opportunity to submit a supplemental petition before the close of the nomination period. For the November 3, 2026 General Municipal Election, the nomination period closes on August 7, 2026.

23. Do I have to pay a fee for filing/submitting my completed nomination papers to the City Clerk's Office?

Yes. You are required to pay a $25 filing fee which covers part of the City's cost of processing a candidate's nomination papers. The fee must be paid upon the filing/submittal of the candidate's nomination papers. The City will waive $1 of the candidate's filing fee for each set of four valid voter signatures contained on the candidate's nomination petition.

24. May I have someone else file/submit my completed nomination papers to the City Clerk's Office?

You are strongly encouraged to file/submit your completed nomination papers in person to the City Clerk's Office since the City Clerk must administer the oath or affirmation in person and you are required to sign the "Official Filing Form" in the presence of the City Clerk.

25. May I withdraw my nomination papers after I have filed them with the City Clerk's Office?

Yes. You may withdraw your submitted nomination papers at any time Monday through Thursday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., prior to the nomination process deadline of August 7, 2026.

26. How soon will the City Clerk's Office determine if I am a qualified candidate?

The City Clerk's Office will review nomination documents and coordinate with the Riverside County Registrar of Voters, as necessary, to verify candidate qualifications and petition signatures. The City will post information regarding qualified candidates following the close of the nomination period and completion of the candidate filing review process.

27. Will I be personally informed of my candidate qualification status?

Yes. You will be informed by telephone and in writing once the City Clerk's Office has completed its review of your nomination documents and determined that all applicable filing requirements have been satisfied..

28. What is a Candidate's Statement?

A Candidate's Statement, which is optional, is a written recitation of the candidate's personal background and qualifications, which will be included in the voter's pamphlet that is mailed to the voters in advance of the election.

29. How will my name and my profession designation appear on the ballot?

You will have the opportunity to determine how your name will appear on the ballot along with any designation you want to appear below your name on the ballot that conforms to one of the designations permitted under the California Elections Code.

30. If I choose to submit a Candidate's Statement, may I change or correct the spelling/wording after it has been submitted?

No, you may not change or correct your Candidate's Statement once it has been submitted to the City Clerk's Office, which means it is critical that you carefully check and proof-read your Candidate's Statement before it is submitted to the City Clerk's Office.

31. Will my Candidate's Statement be subject to public disclosure at any time proper to the election?

Candidate Statements will be kept confidential until the close of the nomination period on August 7, 2026, unless otherwise required by law..

32. If I submit a Candidate's Statement, and I change my mind, may I withdraw the statement?

Yes. The Candidate's Statement may be withdrawn, but not changed, during the period for filing nomination papers and until 5:00 p.m. of the next working day after the close of the nomination period.

33. Must I wait until my campaign receives $2,000 in contributions before filing a Statement of Organization?

No, a campaign committee may file a Statement of Organization before it is actually qualified. "Not yet qualified" should be entered in the "Date Qualified" space on the form.

34. If I am only spending my own money on my campaign, do I need to file any campaign-related documents?

Yes, even if you are spending your own money on your campaign, you are still subject to the filing requirements of the Political Reform Act.

35. May I serve as my own Campaign Treasurer?

Yes, State law allows you to serve as your own treasurer, as long as this is designated in your Statement of Organization.

36. What happens if a candidate or treasurer is not available to sign a campaign disclosure statement on or before the filing deadline?

An agent of the candidate or treasurer may sign the campaign disclosure statement. The agent must attach an explanatory note to the statement stating that, as soon as the candidate or treasurer is available, he/she will verify and sign the statement and an amendment with the proper signature will be filed. In the event a committee treasurer will not be available to carry out his/her duties for an extended period of time, a new treasurer should be designated and the committee's Statement of Organization, Form 410, amended.

37. Are extensions given for campaign disclosure filing deadlines?

Except for deadlines that fall on a Saturday, Sunday or official state holidays, no provisions exist for extending filing deadlines. A statement not filed on or before the deadline is considered late and is subject to late filing penalties.

38. When will sample ballots be mailed to the voters?

State law requires the County Registrar of Voters to mail voter information materials and vote-by-mail ballots within timeframes established by the California Elections Code before the election.. The Riverside County Registrar of Voters will mail County

Voter Information Guides (sample ballots) to voters between September 24, 2026 and October 13, 2026, as required by California Elections Code.

39. When will the official results of the election be announced?

The Riverside County Registrar of Voters has 30 days to certify the results of the election and once the City Clerk receives official notification from the Registrar of Voters of the election results, the City Clerk will then present the results to the City Council for its acceptance no later than the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting or at a special meeting called for this purpose, which typically occurs in December.

40. Is there a way for me to track the election results prior to the Riverside County Registrar of Voters certifying the results of the election?

Yes. The ballots will be counted on election night after the polls are closed by the Registrar's Office. After the close of the polls, the Registrar of Voters will process the previously received vote by mail ballots to begin the canvass. Results will be distributed at the site as well as posted on the website periodically until the ballot count is complete. The Registrar's website address is: https://www.voteinfo.net.

41. When will the elected Mayor and Councilmembers take office?

The elected Mayor and Councilmembers will take office once the City Council adopts the resolution confirming the election results and the elected officials are administered the oath/affirmation of office at the same meeting, which typically occurs in December.