



# NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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## SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY PLACES NO TAX INCREASE GANN MEASURE ON JUNE 2026 BALLOT

**March 2, 2026** – At its February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Sierra Madre City Council voted unanimously to place the City of Sierra Madre No-Tax Increase Gann Measure on the Tuesday, June 2, 2026, Statewide Primary ballot. If approved by Sierra Madre voters, the measure would allow the City to adjust its state-mandated spending limit — known as the Gann Limit — for a period of four years, enabling the City to budget with the revenues it already collects. ***The measure does not raise taxes or impose any new taxes on Sierra Madre residents.***

The Gann Limit was established under a state-mandated formula in 1979 and can only be adjusted for changes in population or inflation. It does not account for the many other factors that have shaped the City's budget over the past 47 years — including sustained economic growth, a global pandemic, or the escalating demands of emergency medical services and wildfire response. As a result, the City's current Gann Limit no longer reflects the real-world cost of delivering services, and voter approval is required to bring it up to date.

“One significant gap the 1979 formula failed to anticipate is Sierra Madre's transition from an all-volunteer fire department to a professionally staffed and managed 24/7 fire and rescue service,” said City Manager Mike Bruckner. “Maintaining that level of service — particularly considering growing wildfire and disaster response needs heightened by the Eaton Fire — requires the ability to use existing City revenue without hitting an outdated state-imposed ceiling.”

The proposed measure would allow the City to budget funds it already lawfully receives toward local priorities: protecting the water supply, maintaining 9-1-1 emergency police, fire, and medical services and response times, and keeping streets and roads in good repair.

For more information, visit [sierramadreca.gov/gannlimit](https://sierramadreca.gov/gannlimit)

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**About Sierra Madre**

Nestled against the scenic foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains and adjacent to the Angeles National Forest, Sierra Madre is a close-knit, village-like community with a population of just under 11,000. Located 15 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles, Sierra Madre offers easy access to regional transportation corridors while maintaining the charm and tranquility of a small mountain town. The City is known for its historic downtown, iconic Wistaria vine, walkable neighborhoods, and vibrant community traditions, including its beloved Fourth of July and Mount Wilson Trail Race events. With its strong volunteer spirit, highly engaged residents, and a longstanding commitment to preserving its unique character, Sierra Madre continues to be recognized as one of the most desirable places to live in the San Gabriel Valley—offering a quality of life that truly feels like “Village Living in the Foothills.”

For more information, please visit [sierramadrecalifornia.gov](http://sierramadrecalifornia.gov) or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



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