

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 4204

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEMON GROVE,
CALIFORNIA, PROVIDING FOR THE FILING OF PRIMARY AND
REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS, DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO
PREPARE AN IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS, AND ESTABLISHING THE DATES
THEREFOR, FOR THE LEMON GROVE BIRD INITIATIVE TO BE
SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026**

WHEREAS, a General Municipal Election will be held in the City of Lemon Grove on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at which time there will be submitted to the voters the Lemon Grove Bird Initiative, a citizen initiated ordinance that would restrict the retail sale of birds within the City and require that birds be obtained only from animal shelters, humane societies, or nonprofit rescue organizations (the “Bird Initiative”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council ordered the Bird Initiative placed on the November 3, 2026 ballot at its regular meeting of May 19, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish the procedures and dates for the filing of primary and rebuttal arguments, consistent with the calendar of the San Diego County Registrar of Voters for the consolidated election, pursuant to the Elections Code of the State of California; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEMON GROVE, CALIFORNIA, DOES RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF DIRECT ARGUMENTS. Pursuant to Elections Code § 9282, the City Council authorizes any of the following to file a written argument for or against the Bird Initiative: the City Council, or any member or members of the City Council authorized by the Council; any individual voter who is eligible to vote on the Bird Initiative; a bona fide association of citizens; or any combination of voters and associations. Arguments may be changed or withdrawn by their authors until, and including, the deadline fixed in Section 3.

SECTION 2. DIRECT ARGUMENTS; WORD LIMIT; DEADLINE. Direct arguments for or against the Bird Initiative shall not exceed 300 words, shall be accompanied by the printed name(s) and signature(s) of the author(s) submitting the argument, or if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers, and shall include no more than five signers, in accordance with Elections Code §§ 9283 and 9286.

Direct arguments shall be submitted to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 13, 2026.

SECTION 4. IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS. Pursuant to Elections Code § 9280, the City Council directs the City Clerk to transmit a copy of the Bird Initiative to the City Attorney. The City Attorney shall prepare an impartial analysis of the Bird Initiative, not to exceed 500 words, showing the effect of the Bird Initiative on the existing law and the operation of the Bird Initiative, and shall submit the impartial analysis to the City Clerk no later than Friday, August 14, 2026.

SECTION 5. REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS. Pursuant to Elections Code § 9285, the City Council authorizes rebuttal arguments for this election. When the City Clerk has selected the arguments for and against the Bird Initiative that will be printed and distributed to the voters, the City Clerk shall send a copy of an argument in favor to the authors of the argument against, and a copy of an argument against to the authors of the argument in favor. Rebuttal arguments shall not exceed 250 words, shall be signed by the authors, and shall be submitted to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 18, 2026. Each rebuttal argument shall immediately follow the direct argument it seeks to rebut. The provisions of this section shall apply only to the election held on November 3, 2026 and shall then be repealed.

SECTION 6. PRIORITY AND SELECTION OF ARGUMENTS. Pursuant to Elections Code § 9287, if more than one argument for or against the Bird Initiative is timely filed, the City Clerk shall select one argument in favor and one argument against for printing and distribution to the voters, giving preference and priority in the order set forth in that section.

SECTION 7. PUBLIC EXAMINATION. Pursuant to Elections Code § 9295, the City Clerk shall make the impartial analysis and the arguments available for public examination for a period of 10 calendar days following the applicable filing deadline, during which a writ of mandate or injunction may be sought.

SECTION 8. COORDINATION WITH REGISTRAR OF VOTERS. The dates established by this resolution are set to align with the calendar of the San Diego County Registrar of Voters for the November 3, 2026 consolidated election. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to transmit the Bird Initiative, the arguments, the rebuttal arguments, and the impartial analysis to the Registrar of Voters and to take all actions necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

SECTION 9. CERTIFICATION. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on July 21, 2026, the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California, adopted Resolution No. 2026 – 4204, passed by the following vote:

AYES: Snow, Smith, Mendoza, Heredia, Altamirano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None



Alysson Snow (Aug 6, 2026 11:40:12 PDT)

Alysson Snow, Mayor

Attest:



Joel G Pablo (Aug 3, 2026 13:08:12 PDT)

Joel G. Pablo, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Kristen Steinke

Kristen Steinke, City Attorney