

RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE FOR CITIES

Destruction of any City record must have City Council approval and written consent from the City Attorney,
unless otherwise provided by law. (Gov. Code § 34090.)

Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Accident/Illness Reports	Not a public record For Employee Medical Records & Employee Exposure Records regarding exposure to toxic substances or harmful physical agents --Includes Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) Does NOT include: records of health insurance claims maintained separate from employer's records; first aid records of one-time treatments for minor injuries; records of employees who worked less than one (1) year if records are given to employee upon termination	GC 6254(c) 8 CCR 3204(d)(1)(A)(B)	Length of employment + 30 years
Accidents/Damage to City Property	Risk management administration	GC 34090 CCP 337.15	10 years
Accounting Records – General Ledger	General Ledger	GC 34090 CCP 337	Until audited + 4 years Published articles show 4 – 7 years retention as typical Sec. of State Guidelines recommends permanent retention. [May be revised at a later time by Sec. of State]

Legal Authority Abbreviations

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Accounting Records – - Permanent Books of Accounts	Records showing items of gross income, receipts and disbursement (including inventories, per IRS regulations)	26 CFR 1.6001-1(c) & (e)	Permanent
Accounts Payable	Journals, statements, asset inventories, account postings with supporting documents, vouchers, investments, invoices and back-up documents, purchase orders, travel expense reimbursements, petty cash, postage, PERS reports, check requests, etc.	CCP 337 26 CFR 31.6001-1(e)(2); Sec. of State Local Gov't. Records Mgmt. Guidelines recommendation	Until audited + 4 years
Accounts Receivable	Receipts for deposited checks, coins, currency; checks received, reports, investments, receipt books, cash receipts, cash register tapes, payments for building permits/parking permits/Transient Occupancy Tax, etc.	CCP 337 26 CFR 31.6001-1(e)(2); Sec. of State Local Gov't. Records Mgmt. Guidelines recommendation	Until audited + 4 years
Affidavits of Publication / Posting	Legal notices for public hearings, publication of ordinances, etc.	GC 34090	Current + 2 years, unless part of a project or matter that requires longer retention (i.e., CEQA documents)

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Agency Report of Public Official Appointments (FPPC Form 806)	Report of additional compensation received by agency officials when appointing themselves to committees, boards or commissions of other public agencies, special districts, joint powers agencies or joint powers authorities. Current report must be posted on the City's website.	2 CCR 18705.5(c)(3); GC 34090	Recommended retention: Keep a paper copy of report for 2 years after removal from the City's website
Agenda / Agenda Packets	City Council, Successor Agency, Commissions – agendas and packets can be imaged immediately for retention, if desired.	GC 34090 GC 34090.5	2 years
Agenda reports (staff reports)	Council/Successor Agency/Commissions - Originals can be imaged immediately for retention, if desired. The imaged record can serve as the “original” record, if desired.	GC 34090 GC 34090.5	2 years

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Agreements (See also Contracts)	Original contracts and agreements and back-up materials, including leases, license agreements, service/maintenance contracts, etc. Original contracts/agreements regarding the development of real property, design, specifications, surveying, planning, supervision, testing, or observation of construction or improvement to real property; may include records of retention releases, retention withheld, change orders, etc.	CCP 337 CCP 337.2 CCP 343 CCP 337.15	4 years after termination/completion 10 years after termination/completion
Annexations / Reorganizations	Notices, Resolutions, Certificates of Completion	GC 34090	Permanent
Annual Financial Report	May include independent auditor analysis	GC 34090	Until audited + 2 years Sec. of State Guidelines recommends while current + 7 years
Applications for Boards, Commissions Committees	Not selected	GC 34090	2 years
Applications for Boards, Commissions, Committees	Selected	GC 34090 Sec. of State Guidelines	Current + 5 years

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Appraisals	For Real Property Owned by City – Not a public record until real estate transaction is complete	GC 34090 GC 6254(h)	2 years
Articles of Incorporation		GC 34090	Permanent
Assessment Districts	Original Documentation	GC 34090	Permanent
Audit Hearing or Review	Documentation created and or received in connection with an audit hearing or review	GC 34090	2 years
Audit Reports	Financial services; internal and/or external reports	GC 34090 CCP 337 CCP 343	Current + 4 years Sec. of State Guidelines recommends permanent retention – may be revised at a later time
Backflow Test Reports	Reports of testing and maintenance – water supply	17 CCR § 7605	3 years
Bank Account Reconciliations	Bank statements, receipts, certificates of deposit, etc.	26 CFR 31.6001-1(e)(2)	4 years (Sec. of State Guidelines – recommended retention: until audited + 5 years)
Bids, Successful	Includes plan and specifications; notices/affidavits.	GC 34090 CCP 337, 337.1	4 years
Bids, Unsuccessful	Unsuccessful bid packages only	GC 34090	2 years

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Billing Records	Utility bill stubs – submitted with payment	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Bonds	Authorization/public hearing records/prospectus/proposals/certificates/notices (transcripts)/registers/statements.	CCP 336a, 337.5	Upon cancellation, redemption or maturity + 10 years
Bonds, Development	Housing; Industrial Development	CCP 337.5	10 years
Bonds, Employee (Fidelity Bonds)	Form of insurance that covers employer (City) for losses resulting from fraudulent acts of specified employees	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Bonds - Final	Final bond documentation; monthly statement of transactions; supporting documents	GC 34090 CCP 337.5	Upon cancellation, redemption or maturity +10 years
Bonds – Paid/Cancelled	Paid or cancelled bonds; warrant certificates; interest coupons	GC 34090 CCP 337.5	10 years
Bonds, Surety	Documentation created and/or received in connection with the performance of work/services for the City, or for parcel maps and subdivision work	CCP 337	4 years
Bonds – Unsold/Unused	Unsold/unused bonds	GC 34090 GC 43900 et seq.	2 years (specific requirements for disposal of unused bonds)
Brochures/ Publications (created for or by the City)	Retain selected documents only for historic value.	GC 34090	2 years

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Budget, Annual	Annual operating budget approved by City Council	GC 34090	Current + 2 years Sec. of State Local Gov't. Records Mgmt. Guidelines recommends permanent retention.
Building, Blueprints/ Specifications	Copies submitted by contractors with application for building permit or Certificate of Occupancy	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Building, Certificates	Compliance, elevation, occupancy – affecting title to real property or liens on real property	GC 34090	Permanent
Building, Construction (Approved)	New commercial and residential construction, tenant improvements, room additions, spas, signs, block wall, remodel (including security bonds)	CCP 337.15 GC 34090	10 years
Building, Inspection	Correspondence, fees, appeal requests, reports	GC 34090	2 years
Building, Permits	Permits for buildings; signs; grading; encroachment permits	GC 34090	Until completed + 2 years
Building Plans	Official copy -- Not to be reproduced until written permission is obtained from architect of record and current building owner (Retention requirement not applicable to buildings containing a financial institution or public utility.)	GC 34090 H&S 19850, 19851	For the life of the building

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Building, Signs (temporary)	Home occupation, off-premise signs	GC 34090	2 years
Business License Annual Reports	Finance	GC 34090	2 years
Business Licenses/Permits	City issued	GC 34090	While current plus 2 years
Cal-OSHA	Personnel-Logs, Supplementary Record, Annual Summary (Federal & State-Cal OSHA)	LC 6410; 8 CCR 14307	5 years
California State Tax Records	Forms filed annually; quarterly and year-end reports	R&TC 19530 R&TC 19704	6 years
Campaign Statements - Mayor, City Council - <u>elected</u> (originals)	<u>Original</u> statements of elected candidates and committees supporting elected candidates for Mayor, City Council	GC 81009(b) GC 81009(g)	Permanent (can image after 2 years)
Campaign Statements - candidates for Mayor, City Council - <u>not elected</u> (originals)	<u>Original</u> statements of candidates and supporting committees for candidates not elected for Mayor, City Council	GC 81009(b) GC 81009(g)	5 years (can image after 2 years)
Campaign Statements for other than Mayor, City Council; other campaign reports (originals)	Original statements of all other persons and committees; other original reports and statements	GC 81009(c), (e) GC 81009(g)	7 years (can image after 2 years)
Campaign Statements/Reports Copies of	<u>Copies</u> of reports/statements (if filing officer is not required to keep more than one copy)	GC 81009(f) GC 81009(g)	4 years (can image after 2 years)
Certificates of Compliance	Building department documents	GC 34090	2 years

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Checks (City-issued)	Includes payroll checks; canceled or voided checks; copies of checks; electronic versions of checks	GC 34090 CCP 337 26 CFR 31.6001-1(e)(2)	Until audited +4 years (Sec. of State Guidelines – recommended retention: until audited + 5 years)
Citizen Feedback	General correspondence.	GC 34090	2 years
Claims Against the City	Paid/Denied	GC 34090	Until settled + 2 years
Code Enforcement, Case files (see Nuisance Abatement)	Building, housing and mobile home code violation records including inspections; public nuisance rubbish and weed abatement, citations [records on vehicle abatement/abandoned vehicles are generally Police Records]	GC 34090	Until closed + 2 years
Code Enforcement, Liens & Releases	Utilities, abatement, licenses	GC 34090	Current + 2 years Keep recorded liens until lien is paid/satisfied
Code Enforcement - Logs	Documentation of investigations and follow-up	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Code Enforcement Regulations	Other than regulations in City's Municipal Code	GC 34090	2 years
Code Enforcement Reports, Federal and State	Code enforcement statistics	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Collective Bargaining Agreements	Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with employee unions; represented employee groups	29 CFR 516.5	3 years

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Community Surveys	Review final survey reports for historic significance	GC 34090	2 years
Complaints - Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous complaints, non-code enforcement, not related to specific lawsuits involving the City and not otherwise specifically covered by the Retention Schedule.	GC 34090	2 years
Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFR)	Finance	GC 34090 CCP 337	Until audited + 4 years
Conflict of Interest Code	Conflict of Interest Code – required under Political Reform Act; must be reviewed by July 1st of every even-numbered year and amended if necessary	GC 87300 et seq.	Permanent

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Contracts, City (see also Agreements)	Original contracts and agreements and back-up materials, including leases, license agreements, service/maintenance contracts, etc.	CCP 337 CCP 337.2 CCP 343	4 years after termination/ completion
	Original contracts/agreements regarding the development of real property, design, specifications, surveying, planning, supervision, testing, or observation of construction or improvement to real property; may include records of retention releases, retention withheld, change orders, etc.	CCP 337.15	10 years after termination/completion
Correspondence	General correspondence, including letters and e-mail; Various files, not related to specific cases and not otherwise specifically covered by the retention schedule.	GC 34090	2 years
Credit Cards, City-owned	Credit card bills or statements and related receipts.	26 CFR 31.6001-1(e)(2)	Until audited + 4 years
	Other records related to use of City-owned credit cards (policies, correspondence, etc.)	GC 34090	Current + 2 years

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Deeds, Real Property (Grant Deeds)	File with recorded documents; originals may not be destroyed.	GC 34090	Permanent
Deferred Compensation Reports	Finance - pension/retirement funds	29 CFR 516.5 29 CFR 1627.3	3 years
Demographic/ Statistical Data		GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Development Agreements	Agreements for development of real property; Development and Disposition Agreements (DDAs); May include infrastructure contracts (i.e., architects, treatment plants, utility lines, etc.), franchises, etc.	CCP 337, 337.1, CCP 337.15 GC 34090 48 CFR 4.703	Permanent (Sec. of State Guidelines recommends retaining paper original for minimum 7 years)
Development Conditions	Mitigation measures; filed with project files	GC 34090	For the life of the project
Development, General Subject Files	Internal working files including correspondence	GC 34090	2 years
Development, Incident Files	Emergency Call Outs	GC 34090	2 years
Development Logs	Logs, registers or similar records listing permits, certificates of occupancy issued, may include inspection, building activity, daily, plan check, utility	GC 34090(a) GC 4003, GC 4004 H&S 19850 - 19853	5 years
Development, Photographs	Aerial Photographs	GC 30490	Current + 2 years

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Development, Projects- Not completed or denied	Building, engineering, planning	GC 34090	2 years
Development, Reports	Activity, Periodic	GC 34090	2 years
Development, Seismic Retrofit Program	Includes Certificates of Compliance	GC 34090 H&S 19850	For the life of the building; Sec.of State Guidelines recommends permanent retention
Development Standards	Includes standards for landscaping medians, parkway landscape development, public works construction	GC 34090 Sec. of State Guidelines	Permanent
Development, Street Names and House Numbers	Includes street dedications, street vacations/closings, address assignment/changes	GC 34090 Sec. of State Guidelines	Permanent
Development, Studies, Special Projects & Areas	Engineering, joint powers, noise, transportation	GC 34090	2 years
Development, Surveys	Recording data and maps	GC 34090	Permanent
DMV Drivers' Records Reports (DMV Pull-Notice System)	Motor Vehicle Pulls; Personnel record – not a public record	GC 34090 GC 6254(c) VC 1808.1(c)	Until superseded (should receive new report every 12 months)
Drawings, Project Plan	Does not include those usually filed with case or project.	GC 34090	2 years

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Easements, Real Property	File with recorded documents; originals may not be destroyed.	GC 34090	Permanent
Economic Development Projects	Administrative records/Staff reports/Project files	GC 34090	2 years
EEOC Records (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission)	Records, reports showing compliance with federal equal employment requirements (EEO-4 Reports, etc.)	29 CFR 1602.30	3 years
Election - Administrative Documents	Not ballot cards or absentee voter lists/applications.	GC 34090	2 years
Election – Affidavit Index	Voter registration index	EC 17001	5 years
Election - Ballots and Related Documents	STATE & LOCAL ELECTIONS: All ballot cards (voted, spoiled, canceled) arranged by precinct, unused absentee ballots, ballot receipts, absent voter identification envelopes, absentee voter applications. May be destroyed subject to any pending contest.	EC 17302, 17306, 17505	6 months
Election - Ballots and identification envelopes – Federal offices	For elections to Federal office (President, Vice President, US Senator, US Representative)	EC 17301	22 months

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Election - Ballots - Prop. 218 (Assessment Districts)	Ballots - Property related fees (Assessment Ballot proceeding) [Ballots are disclosable public records during and after tabulation]	GC 53753(e)(2)	2 years
Election - Canvass	Notifications and Publication of Election Records used to compile final election results, including tally sheets, voting machine tabulation, detailed breakdown of results; special election results	EC 17304	6 months
Election - Election Official's Package of Documents	Package of 2 tally sheets, copy of index, challenge lists, assisted voters list. Public record - all voters may inspect after commencement of official canvass of voters	EC 17304	6 months
Election - Nomination Documents - successful	All nomination documents and signatures in lieu of filing petitions	EC 17100	Until term expires + 4 years
Election - Nomination Documents - unsuccessful		GC 81009(b)	5 years
Election Petitions - Initiative/Recall/Referendum; Charter Amendments	Not a public record - documents resulting in an election - retention is from election certification.	EC 17200, 17400 GC 6253.5; EC 17400; GC 34458-60	8 months
Election Petitions - No election	Not a public record. Not resulting in an election. Retention is from final examination.	EC 17200, 17400 GC 6253.5	8 months

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Election - Precinct Records	From date of election: Precinct official material; declaration of intention; precinct board member applications; orders appointing members of precinct boards and designating polling places includes notice of appointment of office and record of service	EC 17503	5 months
Election - Roster of Voters	From date of election; initiative; referendum recall; general municipal election; Charter Amendments	EC 17300	5 years
Election - Voter Affidavits	Affidavits of registration retained by the elections official	EC 17000	5 years
Employee Benefits	Benefit plans (including “cafeteria” and other plans); health insurance programs; records regarding COBRA – extension of benefits for separated employees, insurance policies (health, vision, dental, deferred compensation, etc.)	29 USC 1027 28 CCR 1300.85.1 11 CCR 560 29 CFR 1627.3(b)(2)	For life of plan/policy + 6 years
Employee Bonds (Fidelity)	Form of insurance that covers employer (City) for losses resulting from fraudulent acts of specified employees	GC 34090	While current + 2 years
Employee Files	Personnel files --Not a public record.	GC 12946 GC 6254(c)	While current + 2 years

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Employee Information, General	Name, address, date of birth, occupation, rate of pay and weekly compensation earned	GC 12946 29 CFR 1627.3 LC 1174	3 years
Employee Information - CEIR	Personnel--California Employer Information Report (for employers of 100 or more employees)	2 CCR 11013 (c)(1) GC 12946	Received + 2 years
Employee Information - Applicant Identification Records	Personnel--Data regarding race, sex, national origin of applicants	2 CCR 11013 (c)(2)	Received + 2 years

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Employee, Medical & Exposure Records (toxic substances or harmful physical agents)	<p>Medical records are part of personnel file --not a public record.</p> <p>Includes medical records made or maintained by a physician, nurse, or other health care personnel, or technician pertaining to employees exposed to toxic substances or harmful physical agents.</p> <p>Does <u>not</u> include first-aid records of one-time treatment made on-site by a non-physician or observation of minor scratches, cuts, burns, splinters, etc., which do not involve medical treatment, loss of consciousness, restriction of work or motion, or transfer to another job.</p> <p>(For employees of less than 1 year, no need to retain medical records regarding exposure to toxic substances/harmful physical agents if they are returned to employee upon termination)</p>	<p>GC 6254(c)</p> <p>29 CFR 1910.1020 8 CCR 3204 (d)(1)(A)(B)</p>	Length of employment + 30 years
Employee, Noise Exposure	<p>Noise exposure measurement records</p> <p>Employee audiometric test records</p>	<p>8 CCR 5100</p> <p>8 CCR 5100</p>	<p>Current + 2 years</p> <p>Length of employment</p>

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Employee, Non-safety	Non-safety employee records may include release authorizations; certifications; reassignments; outside employment; commendations, disciplinary actions; terminations; oaths of office; pre-employment medical evaluations; fingerprints; identification cards (ID's)	29 CFR 1627.3 LC 1174 GC 12946 GC 34090	Length of employment + 3 years
Employee Programs	Includes EAP and Recognition	GC 34090 GC 12946	2 years
Employee, Recruitment	Alternate lists/logs, ethnicity disclosures, examination materials, examination answer sheets, job bulletins	GC 12946 GC 34090 29 CFR 1602.31 29 CFR 1627.3	2 years
Employee, Reports	Employee statistics, benefit activity, liability loss	GC 34090	2 years

Legal Authority Abbreviations

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RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE FOR CITIES

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Employee, Safety	Police department employees (except for peace officers), fire, emergency employees-- records may include release authorizations; certifications; reassignments; outside employment; commendations; disciplinary actions; terminations; oaths of office; pre-employment medical evaluations Peace officer personnel records	29 CFR 1627.3 29 CFR 1602.31 29 CFR 516.6 et. seq. LC 1174 GC 34090 GC 12946 Op. Atty. Gen. No. 99-1111 [May 2, 2000]	Length of employment + 3 years Length of employment + 5 years
Employee Rights - General		GC 12946 29 CFR 1602.14	Length of employment + 2 years
Employment Agreements – At-Will Employees; Temporary Employees	Original agreements/contracts for at-will employees or temporary employees	CCP 337 CCP 343	Length of employment + 4 years
Employment Applications - Not Hired	Applications submitted for existing or anticipated job openings, including any records pertaining to failure or refusal to hire applicant	GC 34090 GC 12946 29 CFR 1627.3	2 years
Employment Eligibility Verification (I-9 Forms)	Federal Immigration and Nationality Act; Immigration Reform/Control Act 1986	8 USC 1324a (b)(3) Pub. Law 99-603	3 years after date of hire, or 1 year after date of termination, whichever is later

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Employment - Public Safety certifications	Certification/designations	GC 34090	Length of employment + 2 years
Employment - Surveys and Studies	Includes classification, wage rates	GC 12946 GC 34090 29 CFR 516.6	2 years
Employment - Training Records, Non-Safety	Paperwork documenting internal and external training for non-safety employees; includes any volunteer program training - class training materials, internships	GC 34090 GC 12946	Length of employment + 2 years
Employment - Vehicle Mileage Reimbursement Rates	Annual mileage reimbursement rates	GC 34090	Until superseded + 2 years
Engineering Capital Improvement Projects	Supporting documentation including bidders list, specifications, reports, plans, work orders, schedules, etc.	GC 34090, CCP 337.15	Project completion + 10 years
Engineering Construction Tracking, Daily		CCP 337.15	Project completion + 10 years
Engineering Drawings, Traffic Control Plan	Signs, signing and striping, road construction	GC 34090	Permanent
Engineering Flood Control	Storm Drains	GC 34090	Permanent

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Engineering Special Districts	Supporting documents re: improvement, lighting, underground utility; bonds, taxes and construction	GC 34090	Permanent
Engineering Street/Alley (Abandonment/ Vacation)	Relinquishment of rights and fee title	GC 34090	Permanent
Engineering Traffic Signals	Counts, collisions, accidents	GC 34090	Completion + 2 years
Environmental Quality Air Quality (AQMD)	Participants/voucher logs, Total Daily Mileage Survey (TDM); various local authorities; Commute Alternative	CCP 338(k); GC 34090	3 years
Environmental Quality Asbestos	Documents, abatement projects, public buildings	GC 34090	Permanent
Environmental Quality California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)	Exemptions, Environmental Impact Report, Mitigation monitoring, negative declaration, notices of completion and determination, comments, statements of overriding considerations	GC 34090 CEQA Guidelines	Permanent
Environmental Quality Congestion Management	Ride sharing, trip management	GC 34090	Completion + 2 years
Environmental Quality Environmental Review	Correspondence, consultants, issues, conservation	GC 34090	Completion + 2 years

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Environmental Quality Pest Control	Pesticide applications, inspections and sampling, documents	GC 34090	Completion + 2 years
Environmental Quality Soil	Analysis, construction recommendations	GC 34090	Completion + 2 years
Environmental Quality Soil Reports	Final Reports	GC 34090	Permanent
ERISA Records (Employee Retirement Security Act)	Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 - plan reports, certified information filed; records of benefits due	29 USC 1027 29 USC 1059	6 years
Ethics Training Records (AB 1234; effective 1/1/06)	Records required to be kept under Gov. Code section 53235.2. Records must show dates that local officials satisfied the training requirements and the entity that provided the training	GC 53235.2	5 years after receipt of training
Events Planning, Community	Review for historic significance	GC 34090	2 years
Family and Medical Leave Act (federal)	Records of leave taken, City policies relating to leave, notices, communications relating to taking leave	29 CFR 825.500 GC 12946	3 years (federal) 2 years (State)

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Federal Tax Records	May include Forms 1096, 1099, W-4 and W-2	26 CFR 31.6001-1(e) 29 CFR 516.5-516.6	Current + 4 years
Fee Schedules/Studies	Considered by the City Council	GC 34090	2 years
Fire Protection District Administration	Administrative documents.	GC 34090	2 years
Fire Safety Administration	General orders, policies & procedures	GC 34090	Until superseded + 2 years
Fixed Assets Inventory	Reflects purchase date, cost, account number	GC 34090	Until audited + 2 years
Fixed Assets Surplus Property	Auction; disposal – Listing of property; sealed bid sales of equipment	GC 34090 CCP 337	Until audited + 4 years
Fixed Assets Vehicle Ownership & Title	Title transfers when vehicle is sold.	VC 9900 et. seq.	Until sold
Flood Plain Maps	FEMA - not a City record, for information only.		Until Superseded
Forms	Administrative - blank		Until Superseded
Fund Transfers	Internal; bank transfers & wires	GC 34090	Until audited + 2 years

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General Ledgers	All annual financial summaries--all agencies	GC 34090 CCP 337	Until audited + 4 years Sec. of State Guidelines recommends permanent retention
General Plan	Image on completion. 1 paper copy in library until superseded.	GC 34090	Until Completed
General Plan Amendments	Image on completion.	GC 34090	Until Completed
Gift to Agency Report (FPPC Form 801)	FPPC form showing payment or donation made to the City or to a City official and which can be accepted as being made to the City	2 CCR 18944(c)(3)(F), (G); FPPC Fact Sheet : "Gifts to an Agency – Part 2"	Must be posted on City website for 4 years (per FPPC Fact Sheet)
Gifts/Bequests	Finance - to the City (kept with cash receipts)	GC 34090	2 years
Grading Permits		GC 34090	Until completed + 2 years
Grading Variances		GC 34090	Until completed + 2 years
Grants Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); Urban Development; other Federal and State grants	Grant documents and all supporting documents: applications, reports, contracts, project files, proposals, statements, sub-recipient docket, environmental review, inventory, consolidated plan, etc.	GC 34090 24 CFR 570.502 24 CFR 85.42	Until completed + 4 years
Grants - Unsuccessful	Applications not entitled	GC 34090	2 years

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Hazardous Materials & Hazardous Waste Disposal Records	Examples of hazardous materials/hazardous waste: medical waste; used oil; pesticides	H&S 117945 H&S 118165 22 CCR 66279.91 3 CCR 6624(g)	3 years
Hazardous Materials - Permits, Hazardous Materials Storage	[Permanent retention of documents regarding environmentally sensitive materials is recommended]	GC 34090	While current + 2 years
Hazardous Materials - Programs, Household Hazardous Waste	Documents regarding federal, State or local programs on disposal of household hazardous waste	GC 34090	Until superseded + 2 years
Hazardous Materials - Exposure Records, etc.	Employee exposure records; name/identity of chemical substance used; when & where chemical substance was used	8 CCR 3204(d) et. seq.	Length of employment + 30 years
Hazardous Materials - Underground Storage Tank Compliance	Documents regarding: storage, location, installation, removal, remediation	GC 34090	Permanent
Hazardous Materials - Underground Storage Tank Maintenance and Repair	Documents regarding: repairs, lining and upgrades	23 CCR 2660(j), 2712	For the life of the tank
Historic Preservation Inventory	Records of historic landmarks, including historic register	GC 34090	Current + 2 years

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Home Occupation Permits	Business license related	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Housing Programs	Planning/ Successor Agency files.	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Housing Programs	Includes comprehensive Housing Authority Strategy, Meeting Credit Certificates, Housing Bond Advisory, HOME, In-Lieu Housing Mitigation, Low/Moderate Housing, Rental Housing Assistance	24 CFR 570.502 24 CFR 85.42	4 years
Insurance	Personnel related	GC 34090	While current, + 2 years
Insurance, Joint Powers Agreement	Accreditation, MOU, agreements and agendas	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Insurance Certificates, City	Liability, performance bonds, employee bonds, property; Insurance certificates filed separately from contracts, includes insurance filed by licensees.	GC 34090	While current + 2 years
Insurance, Liability/Property	May include liability, property, Certificates of Participation, deferred, use of facilities	GC 34090	While current + 2 years
Insurance, Risk Management Reports	Federal OSHA Forms; Loss Analysis Report; Safety Reports; Actuarial Studies	29 CFR 1904.44 GC 34090	5 years (Federal) 2 years (State)
Investment Reports, Transactions	Summary of transactions, inventory and earnings report	GC 34090 CCP 337	Until audited + 4 years
Invoices	Copies sent for fees owed, billing, related documents	GC 34090	Until audited + 2 years

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Job Descriptions	Descriptions of duties, qualifications, responsibilities for each position/classification/job title	29 CFR 1627.3	While current + 3 years
Land Use and Development Code		GC 34090	Until superseded
Lease Agreement	Property or equipment	CCP 337 CCP 337.2 CCP 343	Until terminated + 4 years
Legal Notices / Affidavits of Publication or Posting	Examples: Notices of public hearings, notices of liens, etc. Also proof of publication of notice, or proof of posting of notice	GC 34090	Current + 2 years, unless part of a project or matter that requires longer retention (i.e., CEQA documents)
Legal Opinions	Confidential – not for public disclosure (attorney-client privilege)	GC 34090	Until superseded + 2 years
Licenses/Permits – Special (Events; Solicitation)	This category DOES NOT include business licenses/permits	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Litigation	Case files	GC 34090	Until settled + 2 years
Lobbying or Lobbyist Forms (FPPC forms)	FPPC Form 602 – Lobbying Firm Activity Authorization; FPPC Form 635 – Report of Lobbyist Employer & Report of Lobbying Coalition – forms used when employing or contracting with a lobbying firm	FPPC Reg. 18615(d)	5 years

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Local Appointments List ("Maddy List")	List of all regular and ongoing boards, commissions, and committees appointed by the City Council – pursuant to the Maddy Local Appointive List Act	GC 54970 GC 34090	Until superseded (new list prepared each Dec. 31 st)
Lot Line Adjustments	Land use - case files.	GC 34090	Permanent
Maintenance Manuals	Equipment service/maintenance	GC 34090	Until superseded
Maintenance/Repair Records	Equipment	GC 34090	2 years
Maps & Plats	Engineering & field notes and profiles; cross section of roads, streets, right-of-way, bridges; may include annexations, parks, tracts, block, storm drains, water easements, bench marks, trees, grading, landfill, fire hydrants, base maps, etc.	GC 34090	Permanent
Marketing, Promotional	Brochures, announcements, etc.	GC 34090	2 years
Master Plans, Annual	Special or long range program plan for municipalities – coordination of services; strategic planning	GC 34090	2 years
Materials Board, Renderings Boards & Photographs	Planning/Engineering	GC 34090	2 years

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)	Personnel related; agreements with employee bargaining units resulting from negotiations	GC 34090; 29 USC 211(c) 29 CFR 516.5 Sec. of State Local Gov't. Records Mgmt. Guidelines	Current + 3 years Sec. of State recommends permanent retention
Minutes	Council/Successor Agency/Commissions. Documents may be imaged immediately.	GC 34090(e)	Permanent
Municipal Code	Cities may wish to retain old versions for historic value.	GC 34090	Until superseded
Municipal Facilities Construction	Contains records regarding plans, design, construction, conversion or modification of local government-owned facilities, structures and systems	GC 34090 H&S 19850	For the life of the building
Municipal Facilities Facility Rentals; Use	Permits, contracts, diagrams, schedules, insurance binders	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Municipal Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Service requests, invoices supporting documentation, buildings, equipment, field engineering, public facilities including work orders and graffiti removal	GC 34090	2 years
Neighborhood Planning	Area and neighborhood Planning case records.	GC 34090	Until Completed

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Newsletter, City	May wish to retain permanently for historic reference.	GC 34090	2 years
Notices – Public Meetings	Special Meetings	GC 34090	2 years
NPDES Permits – sewage/sludge	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) – permit – sewage sludge use and disposal – monitoring records	40 CFR 503.17	5 years
NPDES Permits -	NPDES permit - monitoring information, including calibration and maintenance records, original strip chart recordings, required reports and all data used to complete the permit application	40 CFR 122.41	3 years
Nuisance Abatement	Includes citations (not police), nuisance abatement, and liens resulting from nuisance abatement.	GC 34090	Until settled + two years
Oaths of Office	Elected and public officials (i.e., Council members; commissioners; etc.)	GC 34090 29 USC 1113 Sec. of State Guidelines	Current plus 6 years
Offers of Dedication		GC 34090	Until Completed
Ordinances	Vital records – may be imaged immediately.	GC 34090(e)	Permanent

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OSHA	OSHA Log 200, Supplementary Record, Annual Summary (Federal & State-Cal-OSHA); OSHA 300 Log, privacy case list, annual summary, OSHA 301 incident report forms	LC 6410; 8 CCR 14300.33 29 CFR 1904.2 - 1904.6, 1904.33	5 years
OSHA (Accident/Illness Reports)	Personnel - Employee Exposure Records & Employee Medical Records regarding exposure to toxic substances Not a public record	LC 6410; 8 CCR 14300.33; 8 CCR. 3204; GC 6254(c)	Duration of employment plus 30 years
Paramedic Services	Documents other than original contracts.	GC 34090	2 years
Parcel Map Waivers	Land use - planning case files	GC 34090	Permanent
Parcel Maps	Land use - planning/engineering case files	GC 34090	Permanent
Parking Citations	Includes administrative parking citations and appeals	GC 34090	Until settled/adjudicated + 2 years
Parking Studies	Engineering	GC 34090	2 years

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Payroll - Federal/State Reports	Annual W-2's, W-4's, Form 1099s, etc.; quarterly and year-end reports	29 USC 436 26 CFR 31.6001-4 R&TC 19530 R&TC 19704 26 USC 6001 26 CFR 301.6501(a)-1 26 CFR 31.6001-1(e) 29 CFR 516.5 – 516.6	6 years
Payroll Deduction/ Authorizations	Finance	29 CFR 516.6(c)	While Current + 2 years
Payroll records (employee information)	Records showing employee information/data – names, addresses, etc.	29 CFR 516.5 LC 1174(d)	3 years from date of last entry

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Payroll, registers	Finance Labor costs by employee & program	29 CFR 516.5(a) LC 1174(d)	3 years (Sec. of State Guidelines – recommended permanent retention)
Payroll, time cards/sheets	Employee	29 CFR 516.6(a)(1) LC 1174(d)	2 years (Sec. of State guidelines – recommended retention: until audited + 6 years)
Payroll - Wage Rates / Job Classifications	Employee records	LC 1197.5(d) LC 1174(d) GC 34090 GC 12946 29 CFR 516.6 29 CFR 1602.4 29 CFR 1627.3	While current + 3 years
Permits, Construction	Other than building permits - For signs, grading, encroachment, including copies of blueprints and specifications	GC 34090	Until completed + 2 years

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Permits, Other	Alterations, encroachment, excavations, road, street sidewalks & curb alterations, transportation, swimming pool drainage, temporary uses, etc.	GC 34090	Until completed + 2 years
PERS - Employee Benefits	Retirement Plan – annual reports required to be filed under ERISA	29 USC 1027	6 years
	PERS Employee Benefit Plan – original document, or copies	29 CFR 1627.3(b)(2) GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Personnel Policies -- Rules and Regulations	Including employee handbooks, employee manuals, and other policies/procedures	29 CFR 516.6 29 CFR 1627.3(a)	Current + 3 years
Personnel Records	Payroll or other records containing name, address, date of birth, occupation, rate of pay, etc., including records relating to promotion, demotion, transfer, lay-off, termination	29 CFR 1627.3	3 years
Petitions	Submitted to legislative bodies	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Planning Commissioners	Applications and other documents relating to commissioners.	GC 34090 Sec. of State Guidelines	Term of office + 5 years

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Police - Administration Investigations Administrative/Internal Administrative reviews	Initiated by citizen complaints or internally initiated; includes complaints, reports, findings, administrative reviews regarding use of force, etc. [Detailed listings of retention periods for police and other public safety records should be governed by a separate records retention schedule.]	PC 832.5 EVC 1045 PC 801.5	Until closed + 5 years
Policies, Administrative	All policies and procedures, directives rendered by Council not assigned a resolution or ordinance number	GC 34090	Until Superseded + 2 years
Policies, Council/ SA/Commissions	Original policies adopted by the City Council/Successor Agency/Commissions. Imaged immediately as part of Council packet or minutes.	GC 34090	Until Superseded
Political Support/Opposition, Requests & Responses	Related to legislation.	GC 34090	2 years
Press Releases	City related.	GC 34090	2 years
Procedure Manuals	Administrative.	GC 34090	Until superseded + 2 years
Proclamations	City issued proclamations	GC 34090	2 years; if done by City Council Resolution, then permanent retention

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Property, Abandonment	Buildings, condemnation, demolition	GC 34090	Permanent
Property Acquisition/ Disposition	City owned. Supporting documents regarding sale, purchase, exchange, lease or rental of property by City	CCP 337.15	10 years
Public Records Request	Requests from the public to inspect or copy public documents	GC 34090	2 years
Purchasing RFQ's, RFP's	Requests for Qualifications; Requests for Proposals regarding goods and services	GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Purchasing, Requisitions, Purchase Orders	Original Documents	GC 34090 CCP 337	Until audited + 4 years
Recordings - audio (e.g., for preparation of meeting minutes)	Council/Commission/ Successor Agency meetings -- audio recording "made for whatever purpose by or at the direction of the local agency"	GC 34090; 54935.5(b)	Minimum 30 days
Recordings - routine video monitoring, telephone, and radio communications	Routine daily recording of telephone & radio communications; routine video monitoring including in-car video systems, jail observation/monitoring systems, building security systems	GC 34090, 34090.6	Videos - 1 year; Phone & Radio communications - 100 days (destruction must be approved by City Council & City Attorney)

Legal Authority Abbreviations

CCP	Code of Civil Procedure (California)	GC	Government Code (California)	PC	Penal Code (California)
CCR	California Code of Regulations	R&TC	Revenue & Taxation Code (California)	H&S	Health & Safety Code (California)
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	USC	United States Code		
EC	Elections Code (California)	LC	Labor Code (California)		

RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE FOR CITIES

Destruction of any City record must have City Council approval and written consent from the City Attorney,
unless otherwise provided by law. (Gov. Code § 34090.)

Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Recordings, video or digitally recorded – meetings of legislative bodies	Videos or digital recordings of public meetings made by or at the direction of the city (e.g., Council/Commission/Successor Agency meetings)	GC 54953.5	Minimum 30 days
Recordings, video or digitally recorded (Duplicate – see Description or Example of Record)	Other than videos or digital recordings of public meetings; Considered duplicate records if another record of the same event is kept (i.e., written minutes)	GC 34090, 34090.7 85 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 256 (2002)	Minimum 90 days after event is recorded, if another record of the same event is kept (e.g., written minutes)
Records Management Disposition Certification	Documentation of final disposition of records	GC 34090	Permanent
Records Retention Schedules		GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Recruitments and Selection	Records relating to hiring, promotion, selection for training	29 CFR 1627.3	3 years
Refuse Collection	General administrative records	GC 34090	2 years
Registration Forms	Human Services Recreation Programs	GC 34090	2 years
Release Forms/Waivers	Human Services Recreation Programs	GC 34090	2 years
Resolutions	Vital records – may be imaged immediately.	GC 34090(e)	Permanent
Returned Checks	Finance-NSF (not City checks)	GC 34090	2 years after audit

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Salary/Compensation Studies, Surveys	Studies or surveys of other agencies regarding wages, salaries and other compensation or benefits	GC 34090	While current + 2 years
Sewer Construction/ Improvement/ Maintenance	Administrative records.	GC 34090	2 years
Speed Surveys	Engineering	GC 34090	Until superseded plus 2 years
State Controller	Annual reports.	GC 34090	2 years
Statements of Economic Interest - Form 700 (copies) (elected officials)	Copies of original statements of elected officials forwarded to Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC)	GC 81009(f), (g)	4 years (can image after 2 years)
Statements of Economic Interest - Form 700 (originals) (non-elected)	Originals of statements of designated employees	GC 81009(e), (g)	7 years (can image after 2 years)
Stop Payments	Finance - bank statements	GC 34090	2 years
Storm Drain Construction/ Improvement/ Maintenance	Administrative records.	GC 34090	2 years
Street Construction/ Improvements	Administrative records	GC 34090	2 years
Street Vacations	Offers to dedicate; drainage; access rights, etc.	GC 34090	Permanent
Studies, Various City		GC 34090	While current + 2 years

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Taxes, Special	Special tax levied by a local agency on a per parcel basis	CCP 338	Until audited + 3 years
Unemployment Insurance Records	Records relating to unemployment insurance – claims, payments, correspondence, etc.	26 USC 3301-3311; Calif. Unemployment Insurance Code; CCP 343	While current + 4 years
Utility Services - Applications	Applications for utility connections, disconnects, registers, service	GC 34090; Sec. of State Guidelines recommendation	Current + 2 years
Utility Services - Billing Records	Customer name, service address, meter reading, usage, payments, applications/cancellations	GC 34090; Sec. of State Guidelines recommendation	Until audited + 2 years
Utility Services - Journals, Utility Billing	Billing including monthly activity	GC 34090; Sec. of State Guidelines recommendation	Current + 2 years
Utility Services - Connection Records	Maps, water line connections	GC 34090; Sec. of State Guidelines recommendation	Permanent

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Category of Record	Description or Example of Record	Legal Authority	Minimum Legal Retention Period
Utility Services - Meter Reading; Reports		GC 34090; Sec. of State Guidelines recommendation	Current + 2 years
Utility Services - Utility Rebates, Reports		GC 34090	Current + 2 years
Vouchers - Payments	Account postings with supporting documents	GC 34090 CCP 337	Until audited + 4 years
Wage Garnishment	Wage or salary garnishment	CCP 337	Active until garnishment is satisfied; then retain until audited + 4 years
Warrant Register/Check Register	Record of checks issued; approved by legislative body (copy is normally retained as part of agenda packet information)	GC 34090	Until audited + 2 years
Waste Management	Solid Waste – Administrative documents	GC 34090	2 years
Workers Compensation Files	Work-injury claims (including denied claims); claim files, reports, etc.	8 CCR 10102 8 CCR 15400.2	Until settled + 5 years

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