

# Comparison of Mayor-Council vs Council-Manager forms in CA

	Mayor-Council	Council-Manager
<b>Underlying principles</b>	<b>Separation of powers</b> <b>Modeled after the national and state systems of government</b>	<b>Separation of partisan politics from administration</b> <b>Professional management</b> <b>Modeled after U.S. corporate structure</b>
<b>Legislative authority</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Council and Mayor</b>
<b>Executive/administrative authority</b>	<b>Mayor (optional CAO)</b>	<b>Manager (who operates as CEO and CAO)</b>
<b>Selection of Mayor</b>	Elected	Elected (or chosen by the Council)
<b>Removal of Mayor</b>	Recall election	Recall (or removed by council)
<b>Conditions for removal of CEO</b>	Recall election or end of term	Can be removed without cause at any time
<b>Mayor is member of Council</b>	No	Yes
<b>Mayor votes with Council</b>	No	Yes (or only in a tie)
<b>Appointment &amp; removal of CAO</b>	Mayor	Council
<b>Appointment &amp; removal of department heads</b>	Mayor (with or without council confirmation)	Manager (with or without Council confirmation)
<b>Appointment of advisory boards</b>	Varies	Varies
<b>Policy development</b>	Mayor can propose	Manager can recommend
<b>Policy advice</b>	Staff	Manager and staff
<b>Policy approval</b>	Council	Council
<b>Veto authority</b>	Mayor sometimes has veto	Mayor rarely has veto
<b>Policy implementation</b>	Mayor, no role for Council	Manager, no role for Council
<b>Prepare budget</b>	Mayor	CAO
<b>Approve Budget</b>	Council	Council
<b>Purchasing</b>	Mayor (with restrictions)	CAO (with restrictions)