



# City of Baldwin Park

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## **Q&A: Rent Stabilization Ordinance (RSO) Amendments to Baldwin Park Municipal Code Chapter 117 (Ordinance No. 1522)**

### **1. What is the purpose of this ordinance amendment?**

The amendment clarifies how annual rent increases are calculated by specifying April as the CPI-U measurement month and August as the effective adjustment month, adding predictability for tenants, landlords, and staff.

### **2. What is changing about CPI-U calculations?**

The ordinance now specifies that CPI-U for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area will be measured from April to April, with increases taking effect every August.

### **3. What is the maximum allowable annual rent increase?**

The maximum increase remains the lesser of 5% or the April-to-April CPI-U percentage change. If CPI-U is below 1%, landlords may still increase rent up to 1%.

### **4. Are landlords required to post information about rent increases?**

Yes. Landlords must post the maximum allowable rent in a prominent place. Failure to do so after a seven-day correction period results in a \$250 daily fine.

### **5. Does the ordinance change the rules for filing petitions for rent adjustments?**

The process remains the same and includes consistent terminology for hearing officers.

### **6. Who hears rent adjustment petitions?**

A third-party hearing officer conducts the petition hearing.

### **7. What is changing in the “Fair and Reasonable Rent” section?**

The petition must be in writing. The hearing officer determines allowable costs and expenses.

### **8. How does the amendment affect “Just Cause” rent increase petitions?**

The section clarifies that the hearing officer decides just-cause petitions which requires a written factual basis.

### **9. Are any new units exempt from this ordinance?**

No new exemptions were added, language cleanup only.

### **10. When does this ordinance take effect?**

The ordinance becomes effective 30 days after adoption.