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DEC 05 2016

CITY OF RIO RANCHO
ADMINISTRATION

December 1, 2016

Rio Rancho Governing Body
Rio Rancho City Hall
3200 Civic Center Circle
Rio Rancho, NM 87144

Dear Mayor and City Councilors:

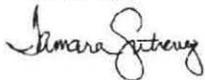
Pursuant to municipal code, in response to the Governing Body not accepting the Charter Review Committee's previously submitted recommendation for a Charter amendment (attached) at its November 9 meeting, the Committee reconvened to consider the suggestions made by the Governing Body.

At the Committee's November 30 meeting, by a vote of 6-0 (one member absent), the Committee formally approved submitting no recommendation for a proposed Charter amendment back to the Governing Body.

The Committee's formal submission of no recommendation is based on the original task given to the Committee by the Governing Body, the Governing Body's rejection of the Committee's initial recommendation, and the varying suggestions made by Governing Body members at its November 9 meeting.

Should the Governing Body not accept the Committee's latest recommendation, the Committee stands ready to meet again to consider the Governing Body's suggestions and provide a follow-up response.

Sincerely,



Tamara Gutierrez

Chairperson of the 2016 Charter Review Committee/City Council District 3 Appointee

Enclosure: October 28, 2016 Transmittal Letter and Committee Recommendation

Cc: Mayor At-Large Appointee –Alonzo Clayton
City Council District 1 Appointee – Phil Pigott
City Council District 2 Appointee – William White (Vice-Chairperson)
City Council District 4 Appointee– Aaron Fleming
City Council District 5 Appointee – Michelle Bunzel
City Council District 6 Appointee– Marilyn Salzman
City Clerk Stephen Ruger
Assistant City Manager Peter Wells

October 28, 2016

Rio Rancho Governing Body
Rio Rancho City Hall
3200 Civic Center Circle
Rio Rancho, NM 87144

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OCT 28 2016
CITY OF RIO RANCHO
ADMINISTRATION

Dear Mayor and City Councilors:

Pursuant to your direction to review Section 2.04 (A) Compensation of the City Charter and make specific recommendations regarding the placement of the Mayor and City Council members annual salaries in the Charter, the 2016 citizen Charter Review Committee submits to you the attached recommendation.

As you will see in the attachment, the Committee recommends that the salary and benefits, as currently outlined in Ordinance/Municipal Code and approved by the Governing Body, for the Mayor and City Council should be established in the Charter. As such, the Committee is recommending that at the next municipal election voters are given the opportunity to approve or not approve amending the Charter in this manner. Please be advised that the attachment reflects what would be presented to voters on the ballot, including the explanation text, and has been verified as appropriate by City staff.

The Committee's recommendation is the result of data review, discussion and deliberation that took place over the course of five Committee meetings. Should the Governing Body not approve the Committee's recommended amendments to the Charter and have suggestions, the Committee stands ready to meet again to consider the Governing Body's input and provide a follow-up response.

Sincerely,



Tamara Gutierrez
Chairperson of the 2016 Charter Review Committee/City Council District 3 Appointee

Enclosure: Committee Recommendation

Cc: Mayor At-Large Appointee –Alonzo Clayton
City Council District 1 Appointee – Phil Pigott
City Council District 2 Appointee – William White (Vice-Chairperson)
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City Clerk Stephen Ruger
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Shall Article II, Governing Body, Section 2.04, Compensation; Expenses, Be Amended to Read as Follows?

Section 2.04 Compensation; Expenses.

~~A. Compensation. The Governing Body shall determine the salary of the mayor, City Council members, and municipal judge by ordinance, subject to the limits of the New Mexico Constitution and irrespective of the annual salary of the county commissioners of any county within which all or part of the City is situate.~~

A. Compensation. (1)Beginning in 2018 and thereafter, the annual salary of the Mayor shall be the most current estimated median household income in Rio Rancho, as reported by the United States Census Bureau, on the day the Mayor is sworn into office.

(2)Beginning in 2018 and thereafter, the annual salary of the City Council members shall be 28% of the most current estimated median household income, as reported by the United States Census Bureau, on the day the City Councilor is sworn into office.

(3)The Mayor and City Councilors and eligible family members shall be offered medical, dental and vision insurance coverage as provided to other city employees.

(4)The annual salary of the Mayor and City Councilors shall not be increased or decreased during his or her term of office.

(5)The Mayor shall be provided a city vehicle.

(6)The Governing Body shall determine the salary of the municipal judge by ordinance.

B. Expenses. The mayor, City Council members, and the municipal judge shall receive their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties of office, subject to budgetary limitations and subject to any per diem and mileage limits as may be set by ordinance.

Explanation: If approved, the compensation and benefits already established via ordinance by vote of the Governing Body (mayor and City Council members) for the mayor and city councilor positions effective in 2018 would be specified in the Charter. If compensation and benefits for the mayor and city councilors is specified in the Charter, the only way compensation and benefits could be changed in the future is by majority vote of a Charter amendment question by qualified electors at an election. No longer would

the Governing Body have the ability to adjust mayor and city councilor compensation and benefits as has been the case historically.

If not approved, the compensation and benefits already established via ordinance by vote of the Governing Body for the mayor and city councilor positions effective in 2018 remains in place and unchanged. In the future, the Governing Body would continue to have the ability to adjust mayor and city councilor compensation and benefits.

Pursuant to the State of New Mexico Constitution, whether this Charter amendment question is approved or not approved, a change (increase or decrease) to mayor and city councilor compensation approved by either qualified electors at an election or the Governing Body would not affect the current office holder and would be applicable to the next office holder.

FOR AMENDMENT: 0

AGAINST AMENDMENT: 0