



**City of Albuquerque  
Charter Review Task Force**

**Thursday, December 18, 2008**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Government Center  
Council Committee Room  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 9081**

**A G E N D A**

1. Approval of Summary Minutes – November 20, 2008 and December 4, 2008
2. Discussion and Possible Vote on Charter Articles:
  - IV. Council
  - V. Mayor
  - VII. Annual Budget Process
  - X. City Employees
  - XI. Enactment and Veto Process for Legislation
3. Discussion and Possible Vote on Issues of Independent Officials: City Attorney, City Clerk & Others
4. Discussion and Possible Vote on Issues of Administrative Law Judges
5. Other Business
  - a. Handouts distributed by staff
6. Next Meeting – January 15, 2009 in Vincent E. Griego Chambers
7. Adjourn

**NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:** If you have a disability and require special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Council Office as soon as possible before the meeting date at 768-3100 or via NM Relay Network at 1-800-659-8331.

## ISSUES PRESENTED BY COUNCILORS AND MAYOR

*From the Ordinance, the Task Force is to review and make a recommendation regarding:*

1. The provisions for the separation of powers.
2. The adequacy of checks and balances between branches and of oversight and enforcement mechanisms.
3. Whether certain appointed positions (including the City Attorney and the City Clerk) should be independent to ensure fairness and accountability to both branches.

*From the Mayor:*

4. Ensure that recent Charter amendments are consistent with the remainder of the Charter.
5. Determine the ramifications of adding Administrative Law Judges and whether this should be accomplished by a Charter amendment.
6. Review adequacy of current ethical/conflict of interest provisions.

*From supplemental memos from the Council:*

7. Should municipal elections continue to be non-partisan?
8. Should the Mayor sit as the presiding officer of the Council, and should he or she be a voting member?
- \*9. Should Councilor salaries be raised?**
10. What provisions should be added to ensure administrators and department heads are top-flight professionals whose decisions and actions are in the best interest of the citizens?
11. How can we prevent Council policy from being ignored or thwarted after it is adopted?
- \*\*12. What is the Mayor's role in budgetary matters and personnel policies?**
- \*13. What is the Council's role as the City's Zoning Authority and what is its relationship to the Planning Department?**
14. Should the removal process for the City Attorney and Senior Administrative Officers be changed?
15. Should the City Clerk be independent of the Mayor and Council?
- \*16. Should the Council have greater control (including power to purchase and construct) over its "set-aside" projects?**
17. Should the timing of elections be changed so all councilors may run for the office of mayor without losing their council seats?

*Other issues raised by Councilors or the Mayor that have been dealt with or will be raised in January:*

18. Should the Mayor-Council form of government be changed?
19. Should the electrical franchise article be stricken?
20. Should the performing arts center provision be stricken?
21. Should the human rights article include sexual orientation?
22. Should there be two or more "At-Large" City Councilors?
23. Should the Board of Ethics members and chairperson have term limits?
24. Review of the proposed Ethical Public Service Act now pending before Council.

**\* Questions to be raised with regard to Article IV. Council**

**\*\* Questions to be raised with regard to Article VII. Annual Budget Process**