

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY SIXTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. O-24-50 ENACTMENT NO. O.2024.041

SPONSORED BY: Louie Sanchez

1 **ORDINANCE**

2 **AMENDING ROA 1994, SECTION 2-1-10 TO REQUIRE WRITTEN RESPONSES**
3 **TO QUESTIONS POSED DURING THE “ADMINISTRATION QUESTION AND**
4 **ANSWER PERIOD” OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS.**

5 **WHEREAS, The “Administration Question and Answer Period” during**
6 **meetings of the City Council serves many important functions, including**
7 **allowing the Council to: gather information, conduct oversight, identify and**
8 **address issues, and develop policies that address city needs; and**

9 **WHEREAS, The Administration Question and Answer Period can also**
10 **facilitate dialogue between the Council and the Administration and can help**
11 **build trust and ensure transparency and accountability in governance; and**

12 **WHEREAS, There are times when the Administration is unable to provide**
13 **answers to Council questions during the Council meeting for various reasons;**
14 **and**

15 **WHEREAS, To ensure transparency as well as clarity and precision, written**
16 **responses to Council questions should be provided by the Administration;**
17 **and**

18 **WHEREAS, Making questions and answers available to the public online**
19 **will allow constituents to better understand the workings of their government.**

20 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF**
21 **ALBUQUERQUE:**

22 **SECTION 1. ROA 1994, Section 2-1-10 is hereby amended as follows:**
23 **§ 2-1-10 MAYOR.**

24 **(A) The Mayor, or the Mayor's representative, shall be present at the**
25 **hearings on the Mayor's proposed budget to answer questions about the**

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1 budget. The City Attorney, or the City Attorney’s designated representative,
2 shall be present at all meetings of the City Council.

3 (B) Administration Question and Answer Period. The Mayor, or the Mayor’s
4 representative, shall respond to all questions asked by City Councilors during
5 the “Administration Question and Answer Period” during meetings of the City
6 Council.

7 (1) For questions submitted to the Administration at least one business
8 day prior to the City Council meeting, verbal answers shall be provided during
9 the City Council meeting. If a verbal answer to a pre-submitted question is not
10 provided during the City Council meeting, the Administration shall provide a
11 written response that shall be due to the Council one (1) business day
12 following the meeting at which the question is asked.

13 (2) For all other questions, including new questions asked during a City
14 Council meeting, if verbal answers are not provided during the meeting, the
15 Administration shall provide written responses that shall be due to the Council
16 7 business days following the meeting at which the questions are asked.

17 (3) The Council Services Department shall make all questions and
18 answers accessible to the public on the City Council website.

19 (4) The written responses outlined in this ordinance are only required
20 when a Councilor asks a question that has a factual, objective answer, such as
21 a request for tangible information and/or data. Written responses are not
22 required when a Councilor asks a question that has only a subjective,
23 philosophical, or opinion-based answer.

24 SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY. If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause,
25 word or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or
26 unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not
27 affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance. The Council
28 hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section,
29 paragraph, sentence, clause, word or phrase thereof irrespective of any
30 provision being declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid.

31 SECTION 3. COMPILATION. SECTION 1 of this Ordinance amends, is
32 incorporated in, and is to be compiled as part of the Revised Ordinances of
33 Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1994.

1 **SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance takes effect five days after**
2 **publication by title and general summary.**

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1 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 18th DAY OF November, 2024
2 BY A VOTE OF: 7 FOR 2 AGAINST.

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4 For: Baca, Bassan, Champine, Fiebelkorn, Grout, Lewis, Sanchez
5 Against: Peña, Rogers
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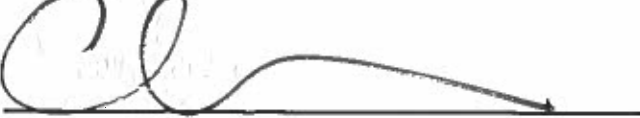
11 _____
12 Dan Lewis, President
13 City Council
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16 APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024

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20 Bill No. O-24-50

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22 Timothy M. Keller, Mayor
23 City of Albuquerque
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26 ATTEST:

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29 Ethan Watson, City Clerk
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