



# CITY OF SANTA FE

## Memorandum

**Date:** June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**To:** Governing Body, Public Works and Utilities Committee, Quality of Life Committee, and Finance Committee

**From:** Marci Eannarino, Legislation and Policy Innovation Manager ME  
ME

**Via:** Erin K. McSherry, City Attorney EM  
EM

**RE:** Ballot question to provide for a vote of six councilors to remove or suspend the city manager, city attorney, and city clerk

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The resolution proposes to submit a ballot question to the City of Santa Fe's ("City") voters during the November 4, 2025, regular local election. The ballot question would ask voters whether or not to amend Article VI, "Governing Body", Section 6.02 of the City's Charter ("Charter") to give the governing body the authority to suspend or remove the city manager, city clerk, and/or city attorney by a vote of five councilors at a regularly scheduled meeting. Additionally, as a matter of technicality, should the voters approve the change to Article VI, Section 6.02, the amendment would also remove Section 8.04 from Article VIII, "City Manager" from the Charter because the language in this section would become duplicative.

### BACKGROUND:

The process for placing a question on the ballot considers the following items:

- Section 10.02 of the City's Charter states, "This Charter may be amended or repealed as provided by law. The city attorney shall review and render and publish a public opinion as to the legality and form of any proposed charter amendment before it is submitted to the voters."
- State law, NMSA 1978, Section 3-15-16 states that a home rule municipality may amend its Charter "by a proposal submitted by the governing body of the municipality to the qualified electors."
- Therefore, a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body describing a proposed ballot questions is the mechanism the City uses to document its wish to submit a proposal to the electors.

### ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution  
Fiscal Impact Report