

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

General Information:

(Check) **Bill:** _____ **Resolution:** X

Short Title(s): Charter Commission Establishment

Sponsor(s): Councilors Jamie Cassutt, Pilar Faulkner, and Alma Castro

Reviewing Department(s): City Attorney’s Office

Staff Completing FIR: Marci Eannarino, Legislation and Policy Innovation Manager; Palmer Anderson, Policy Analyst; Christine Spiers, Legislative Assistant **Date:** 8/22/2025
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Reviewed by City Attorney: *Erin McSherry* **Date:** 08/22/2025
[Erin McSherry \(Aug 22, 2025 15:39:44 MDT\)](#)

Reviewed by Finance Director: *Emily K. Oster* **Date:** 08/22/2025

Summary:

The proposed Resolution would establish a Charter Review Commission to consider separation of powers and balance of powers, as between the mayor and city councilors. Section 10.01 of the City of Santa Fe’s Municipal Charter calls for a charter review commission to be appointed “as needed, but not less frequently than every ten years”. The Governing Body members would appoint the Commission no later than April of 2026, and the Commission would recommend proposed amendments to the Charter to the Governing Body no later than April of 2027. Per Section 10.01 of the City of Santa Fe’s Charter, the Governing Body would then vote on whether to include the Commission’s recommendations on the ballot for approval by the voters in the November 2027 regular local election.

Departments Affected:

Governing Body, City Attorney’s Office, City Clerk’s Office, City Manager’s Office

Consequences of Not Enacting Legislation:

If this legislation is not adopted, then the City would not establish a Charter Review Commission to recommend whether the City’s Charter should be amended in relation the separation of powers and balance of powers as between the mayor and the city councilors.

Conflict, Duplication, Companionship, or Relationship to Other Legislation:

None at this time.

Performance and Administrative Implications:

The designated staff liaisons to the Commission and representatives from the City Attorney’s Office would be required to attend at least eight additional meetings. If the COMmission recommends changes that the Governign Body choses to place on the ballot, then the City Clerk would need to submit the questions to the County Clerk for inclusion on the ballot.

Fiscal Implications:

**Section 10.01 of the City’s Charter states that “the governing body shall fund a budget adequate for the commission to perform its functions and the city attorney or the city attorney’s designee, and no fewer than two additional employees identified by the City Manager, shall assist the commission to perform research and drafting functions for the commission”. Meeting this requirement would be budget neutral if the employee support described can be accomplished using current city employees. If existing resources and personnel are assigned, other City functions will be de-prioritized. In addition, if additional costs are required to convening of the Commission, the City would need to fund a budget adequate to support the Charter’s functions.

Fiscal Impact

 X Check here if no fiscal impact

Expenditures

Expenditure Type	FYE 2025	FYE 2026	FYE 2027	Require BAR (Y/N)	Recurring (R) or Non-recurring (NR)	Fund	3-Year Total Cost
<u>Personnel and Benefits*</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	_____	
<u>Capital Outlay</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____	_____	
<u>Contractual/</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____		_____	_____	
<u>Professional Services</u>							
<u>Operating</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____		_____	_____	\$ _____
<u>Total:</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____				\$ _____

Expenditure Narrative:

Revenue

Revenue Type	FYE 2025	FYE 2026	FYE 2027	Recurring (R) or Non-recurring (NR)	Fund
General Fund	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Special Revenue	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
CIP	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Enterprise	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Internal Service	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Trust and Agency	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Federal	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____	_____
Total	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____		

Revenue Narrative:

Signature: CHARLSTEIN SPADERS

Email: cmspiers@santafenm.gov

Signature:

Email:

Signature:

Email: