

June 1, 2018

Trina Gurule, Acting City Clerk
City of Albuquerque
600 2nd Street NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

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Dear Ms. Gurule,

Please accept this letter as a Notice of Intent to circulate a petition related to a "Proposition to Amend the City Charter by Adding Democracy Dollars." The charter amendment shall be entitled the "Albuquerque Democracy Dollars" charter amendment and will read as follows:

Democracy Dollars

Proposition 1: Proposition to Amend the City Charter by Adding Democracy Dollars to the city's public financing system and Changing Election Dates to Comply with State Statute.

SUMMARY:

Proposing to amend the City Charter by adding Democracy Dollars to the city's Open and Ethical Elections Code.

If passed, the Charter Amendment would provide eligible city residents with Democracy Dollars, to contribute to their choice of qualified candidates. These candidates could redeem Democracy Dollars with the City Clerk, up to a limit, for funds to spend in support of their campaigns. The amendment also directs the city council to enact an ordinance providing for the issuance, assignment, and redemption of Democracy Dollars. Currently, the charter provides that qualified candidates are eligible for an initial amount to cover allowed outreach to voters. The Charter Amendment would change the amount for mayoral candidates to \$1.75 per voter and encourage more city residents to participate in local elections by allowing them to direct funds already budgeted and available to candidates they support.

This amendment will also change city election dates so that they comply with the State's Local Election Act.

TITLE & PROPOSITION

PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 2 AND 3; ARTICLE IV, SECTION 4; ARTICLE V, SECTION 2; ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 14 AND ARTICLE XVI, SECTIONS 3, 7, 10, AND 12 OF THE ALBUQUERQUE CITY CHARTER:

CITY CHARTER, Art. II. ELECTIONS

Section 2. ELECTION DATES.

[R]egular municipal elections shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in ~~October~~ November of odd-numbered years...

Section 3. REFERENCE TO STATE LAW.

(a) ~~The Local Election Act Chapter 3, Articles 8 and 9, NMSA 1978~~ as amended and as supplemented from time to time, shall govern the conduct of all aspects of municipal elections, except where inconsistent with the terms of this Charter, in which event this Charter shall control.

CITY CHARTER, Art. IV, COUNCIL.

Section 4. TERMS OF OFFICE.

The terms of the office of a Councilor, unless sooner recalled or removed, shall begin on ~~December~~ January 1st of the year of following the election and be four years or until a successor is duly elected and qualified.

CITY CHARTER, Art. V, MAYOR.

Section. 2. MAYOR'S TERM AND SALARY.

The term of Mayor, unless sooner recalled or removed, shall begin on ~~December~~ January 1st of the year of following the election and shall be for four years or until a successor is duly elected and qualified.

CITY CHARTER, Art. XVI, OPEN AND ETHICAL ELECTIONS CODE

Section 3. DEFINITIONS.

(S) COUPON ("DEMOCRACY DOLLARS"). A credit of Fund revenue issued to an eligible resident of the City of Albuquerque, which may be redeemed by a Participating Candidate for Fund revenue as provided in the Open and Ethical Elections Code.

Section 7. CERTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATION.

(A) Upon receipt of a final submittal of Qualifying Contributions by an Applicant Candidate, the Clerk shall determine whether the Applicant Candidate has:

(3) ~~qualified as a candidate pursuant to other applicable City and State election law submitted a nominating petition containing the number of signatures prescribed by Article II, Section 4, of this Charter, and a sworn statement attesting to the candidate's residency within the city and, where applicable, within the council district that the candidate seeks to represent;~~

Section 10. FUND CREATION - FUND USE.

(F) The Council shall enact an ordinance providing for the issuance, assignment and redemption of Democracy Dollars, and any other provisions necessary to properly administer Democracy Dollars as part of the Open and Ethical Elections Code.

Section 12. TIMING AND AMOUNT OF FUND DISTRIBUTION.

(A) (3) For redemption of coupons on regular dates set by the Clerk to candidates who have been certified as Participating Candidates pursuant to Section 7 of the Open and Ethical Elections Code.

(B) The Clerk shall distribute from the Fund:

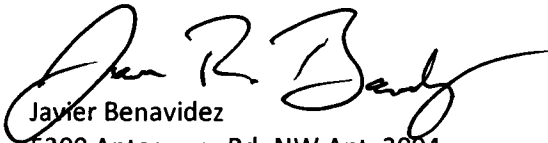
(1) ~~the \$1.00~~ \$1.75 per registered City voter to Mayoral Participating Candidates, and to Participating Candidates for Council \$1.00 per registered City voter residing in the district in which the Participating Candidate desires to represent; and

(2) \$25.00 for each Coupon redeemed by a Participating Candidate; provided that, the total amount of Fund revenue redeemed by a Participating Candidate under this subsection shall not exceed the amount such candidate is eligible to receive under subsection (B)(1) of this section.

(3) City Council by ordinance may increase but shall not decrease the dollar amounts in subsections (B)(1) and (B)(2) of this section.

(C) The amount of revenue to be distributed to a Participating Candidate under subsection (B)(1) shall be reduced by an amount equal to the aggregate amount of Seed Money contributions received by the Participating Candidate during the Exploratory and Qualifying Periods and by Qualifying Contributions received by the Participating Candidate during the applicable Qualifying Period.

Sincerely,



Javier Benavidez
5300 Antequera Rd. NW Apt. 2004
Albuquerque, NM 87120

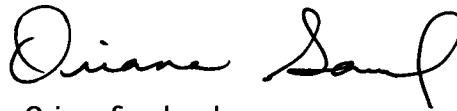


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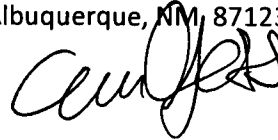
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