

2024 November San Antonio City Charter Ballot Measures

9/18/2024

There are six finalized proposed city charter amendments, including those that will change how the city council and city manager operate and how much they are paid. Here's what voters will decide on this fall:

Proposition A - Ethics - To enhance the functionality of the Ethics Review Board by clearly defining what constitutes a "conflict of interest" and granting the Board the authority to decide whether to take up complaints that have already been addressed by other entities, thereby streamlining the complaint process.

Proposition B - Language updates - To modernize the language used in the City Charter, making it gender-neutral and updating the names of positions and departments, as part of a broader effort to ensure that the City's governing documents are inclusive and reflective of contemporary standards.

Proposition C - City manager pay and tenure - To reverse the limits on the City Manager's salary and tenure, giving the City Council the power to determine the City Manager's salary and tenure, providing more flexibility in managing the City's executive leadership and attracting top talent.

Proposition D - City employees' political activity - To allow City employees to engage in local political activities (not including top City leadership), with the goal of encouraging civic engagement among City employees while maintaining impartiality at the highest levels of City government.

Proposition E - Council pay raises - To increase the annual pay for City Council members to \$70,200 and for the mayor to \$87,800 with automatic annual adjustments (based on the HUD income limits for the area), to ensure that public service is accessible to a broader range of residents, not just those who can afford to serve without adequate compensation.

Proposition F - Longer City Council terms – To change the term limits for City Council members and the mayor from four 2-year terms to two 4-year terms, providing elected officials with more time to implement their policies and initiatives.

Endorsements:

- On September 17, 2024, the **Bexar County Democratic Party Executive Committee** passed a resolution endorsing all the propositions, except Proposition F.
- At the August 8, 2024 City Council meeting, **Councilwoman Alderete Gavito** voiced support for adding all but one of the proposed charter amendments to the November ballot. The exception was Proposition F which would extend the terms

of council members and the mayor to four years. Ultimately, the Councilwoman believes it's up to the voters to decide, but expressed strong reservations regarding extending term lengths as she believes two-year terms hold the office holder more accountable to be engaged with their residents.

Background Articles:

[San Antonio City Council finalizes charter amendments, sets election for November | TPR](#)

[SA charter questions on Nov. 5 ballot | TPR](#)

[City Amendment Ordinance](#)