

City of Las Vegas

1700 N. Grand Avenue Las Vegas, NM 87701

505-454-1401 lasvegasnm.gov



MAYOR DAVID ROMERO

**City of Las Vegas
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 29, 2025-Tuesday-5:30 p.m.
City Chambers
1700 North Grand Avenue
Las Vegas, NM 87701**

AGENDA

City Council Meetings are

Available via YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNGDVGRRAL0qVevel5JYeRw?view_as=subscriber

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. MOMENT OF SILENCE**
- V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- VI. PUBLIC INPUT (comments limited to topics on current agenda; not to exceed 3 minutes per person and individuals must sign up at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to meeting.)**
- VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (July 2 and July 9, 2025)**
- VIII. BUSINESS ITEMS**
 - 1. Request approval of Resolution No. 25-27, the final quarter report for 2024-2025 for submission to Department of Finance & Administration, Local Government Division.

Morris Madrid, Finance Director The City of Las Vegas is required to approve and submit the Final 2024-2025 DFA Financial Report.
 - 2. Request approval of Resolution No. 25-28 to adopt the Final Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget.

David Ulibarri
Councilor Ward I

Michael Montoya
Councilor Ward 2

Barbara Casey
Councilor Ward 3

Marvin Martinez
Councilor Ward 4

Morris Madrid, Finance Director The City of Las Vegas is required to develop, approve and adopt a 2025-2026 final budget as per DFA Local Government Division requirements.

IX. ADJOURN

ATTENTION PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: The meeting room and facilities are accessible to persons with mobility disabilities. If you plan to attend the meeting and will need an auxiliary aid or service, please contact the City Clerk's Office prior to the meeting so that arrangements may be made.

ATTENTION PERSONS ATTENDING COUNCIL MEETING: By entering the City Chambers you consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their use for inclusion on the City of Las Vegas website and to be broadcast on YouTube.

NOTE: A final agenda will be posted 72 hours prior to the meeting. Copies of the Agenda may be obtained from Utilities, Office of the City Clerk, 1700 N. Grand Avenue, Las Vegas, NM 87701 or the City's website at www.lasvegasnm.gov

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025 AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

MAYOR: David Romero

COUNCILORS: Marvin Martinez
Barbara Casey
Michael L. Montoya
David Ulibarri

ALSO PRESENT: Robert A. Anaya, City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Caleb Marquez, Sergeant at Arms
Contracted City Attorney, Geno Zamora

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Romero called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Councilor Montoya asked for a moment of silence to reflect on all of the blessings they had received.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the minutes from June 11, 2025 with minor corrections. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Review/Discussion and possible action regarding all Sections of the City of Las Vegas Municipal Charter including recommendations made by the Charter Commission.

Mayor Romero asked Contracted City Attorney Geno Zamora if the Municipal Charter could be adopted as presented, including the Charter Commission's recommended changes.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised yes, that it was recommended so the votes wouldn't bring down the entirety of the edits that needed to be made to the Charter.

Recommended Ballot Questions by the Charter Commission:

1. Approval of administrative language and law changes in the Municipal Charter.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora stated that the ballot questions were placed in the order they would be implemented.

Mayor Romero asked if the Governing Body had any recommendations concerning the Municipal Charter.

Councilor Martinez asked, upon the adoption of the Municipal Charter and subsequent revisions, if further changes could be made between the current revisions and the next scheduled revision period.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora mentioned that the Governing Body had a mandatory five-year review of the Municipal Charter. Contracted City Attorney Zamora stated that any revisions made to the City Charter would be presented in the November 2025 Election. Contracted City Attorney Zamora also stated that the Governing Body could convene meetings to propose City Charter amendments, however the changes would not be enacted until the November 2027 Election.

Councilor Martinez asked if the modifications pertained solely to the ballot questions or encompassed the entire Municipal Charter.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora confirmed the request encompassed the entire Municipal Charter.

Councilor Montoya asked if the Governing Body would retain oversight of salaries for the City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, Police Chief, and members of various boards, commissions, and advisory committees.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised there was no recommended change and it was projected to remain the same.

Councilor Montoya recommended the inclusion of the Fire Chief, citing public safety as a key consideration.

Councilor Casey advised that within the Municipal Code the City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, and Police Chief were to be the only appointed officials that

were voted on by the Council. Councilor Casey asked if the state law permitted the Council to vote on appointed officials who were intended to be the only officials subject to such a vote.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora discussed the differences in municipal code reliance for appointing the Police Chief and stated that cities that relied solely on the Municipal Code could only appoint a Police Chief. Contracted City Attorney Zamora mentioned that municipalities that have City Charter's had the option to include the Fire Chief position for Governing Body approval, though most did not. Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised the Charter Commission ultimately decided against recommending the addition of the Fire Chief.

Councilor Montoya expressed the importance of the Governing Body receiving firsthand information from the Fire Chief regarding public safety.

Councilor Martinez asked if the Mayor would appoint the position in the same manner as the Police Chief, and if the appointee would remain under the City Manager's authority.

Councilor Montoya stated that the Fire Chief position would be handled similarly to other appointed officials. Councilor Montoya advised that the Mayor would recommend two candidates to the Council, from whom the Council would then make a selection.

Councilor Martinez asked if the Mayor would need to present more than one nominee to the Council.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised that the Charter Commission suggested consolidating the two existing recommendations into a single one.

Mayor Romero asked if Councilor Montoya had further recommendations.

Councilor Montoya asked if the City Manager held the authority to hire and terminate all City directors.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised, yes.

Councilor Montoya asked if the presentation to the Governing Body was going to be discontinued.

City Attorney Zamora stated that it would no longer be presented to the Governing Body.

Councilor Montoya voiced his concern and expressed his disagreement with the hiring and termination process for all City directors, stating that the decisions should be presented to the Governing Body. Councilor Montoya emphasized that without the oversight, the Council would lose its authority over the direction of the City of Las Vegas.

Councilor Casey concurred with Councilor Montoya's response.

Councilor Martinez mentioned that the Governing Body would be removing the power that the City Manager would have.

Councilor Martinez stated that the Governing Body would be revoking the authority that the City Manager had.

Councilor Martinez asked if the City Manager would make the decision independently, without presenting it to the Governing Body.

Mayor Romero advised as it currently stood the City Manager would recommend the director's removal to the Governing Body, which would then vote to approve or disapprove it.

Councilor Montoya stated that granting the City Manager full authority could lead to future issues. Councilor Montoya suggested leaving the decision to the Governing Body to demonstrate stability.

Mayor Romero suggested an alternative to directly incorporate the directors removal into the Municipal Charter. Mayor Romero stated that the Governing Body could add language to the Charter that permits the City to adopt such a provision by ordinance.

Councilor Montoya voiced his concern and expressed his disagreement with Mayor Romero's suggestion, stating that the removal of directors should be included in the Municipal Charter rather than adopted by ordinance, as an ordinance could be altered quickly.

Councilor Casey voiced her concern regarding the removal of directors, suggesting that City staff needed recourse. Councilor Casey stated that the Governing Body, rather than the City Manager, should be responsible for such removals to prevent conflicts between the City Manager and staff.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to amend the Municipal Charter draft document to include the Fire Chief among the appointed positions.

Mayor Romero asked for a second.

Motion died due to a lack of a second.

City Manager Robert A. Anaya asked about the historical process concerning a vacancy.

Mayor Romero asked Chairman Matt Martinez if he could speak to the historical process.

Chairman Martinez stated that organizational meetings were held where everyone was appointed at that time. Chairman Martinez asked Contracted City Attorney Zamora if they had spoken about City Manager hiring staff.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora stated there were revisions made to Article V, Section 5.07 (Departments). Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised the changes would grant the City Manager full hiring and termination authority over subordinate department directors, removing the previous requirement for Governing Body approval and only providing Governing Body notification.

Councilor Montoya voiced his concern and stated that allowing a single individual to make the decision regarding director hiring presented too high of a liability, potentially exposing the City to lawsuits. Councilor Montoya recommended that the existing language within the Municipal Charter remain unchanged.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve maintaining the current director hiring process as outlined in the Municipal Charter. Councilor Casey seconded the motion.

Mayor Romero asked Commissioner Benito Pacheco to give a summary on the Charter Commission's decision making process.

Commissioner Pacheco stated that in his opinion there is increased liability having the Governing Body involved in personnel actions. Commissioner Pacheco stated it was a legal protection for the community and would bring the City of Las Vegas in line with the State and County in terms of the Governing Body and department directors.

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Montoya asked Contracted City Attorney Zamora to identify any other significant changes he had found in item #1 that the Governing Body should be aware of.

City Attorney Zamora mentioned that there were updates to the Municipal Court, including refinements to its language, election qualifications, and ethics.

Councilor Martinez asked if the Municipal Judge was eligible to become a City Councilman.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised, no.

Councilor Martinez asked if the reason was its nonpartisan nature.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised that the issue stemmed from the two distinct positions within the City.

Councilor Montoya asked Contracted City Attorney Zamora to clarify the qualifications needed to serve as an alternate judge during a temporary absence or vacancy in the judge's office.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised it fell under residency and the ability to vote.

Councilor Montoya stated that without qualifications, the judge had the authority to appoint any individual as an alternate judge.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora stated that due to the immediate need to hear the cases, waiting for a meeting to appoint an alternative judge was not feasible, and a qualified elector would be eligible.

Councilor Montoya suggested the language be changed to qualified elector.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised due to the new Election Act it redefined the qualifications in 1-22-3B.

Councilor Montoya inquired about the rationale behind eliminating the 90-day period.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora stated that it did not comply with the State Election Code, which the City abided by.

Chairman Martinez stated that individuals within the Municipal Court who had not been heard in a timely manner had a recourse available to them.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised a Municipal Judge is required to reside within City limits.

Councilor Martinez made a motion to amend Section 9.02(A), changing the language to "Partisan-Elected Office."

Councilor Martinez asked Chairman Martinez if he recommended the proposal.

Chairman Martinez stated it was not recommended, but the Governing Body would make the final decision.

Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael Montoya	No	David Ulibarri	Yes
Marvin Martinez	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Montoya asked if the changes would grant the Mayor additional authority beyond existing powers.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora clarified the Governing Body's agreement to maintain the Mayor's authority, with revised language specifying voting instances. Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised that the Special Elections did not encompass Charter amendments or vacancy fillings.

Councilor Montoya asked about the method of presenting the information to voters and its placement on the ballot.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora stated that the election resolution would be drafted for the Governing Body's approval or denial. Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised if approved, it would be forwarded to the County Clerk for inclusion on the ballot. Contracted City Attorney Zamora also stated that the Charter Commission met to discuss the necessity of holding open houses or Town Hall meetings to engage the community.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve the administrative language and law changes in the Municipal Charter with the final draft taken back to the Governing Body for a final vote. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

2. Approval to go from (4) Council members to (8) Council members.

Councilor Montoya supported increasing the number of Council members to eight (8), stating it would enhance representation and provide constituents with more opportunities to engage with Councilors. Councilor Montoya emphasized the

value of the added knowledge and experience that eight (8) Council members would bring to the table. Councilor Montoya voiced his concerns regarding the salaries of a larger Governing Body, and however had no objections to the expansion and recommended the community to vote on the matter.

Councilor Casey recommended maintaining four Council members, expressing concern about the significant expense to the City associated with having eight Councilors.

Councilor Martinez expressed a desire for a sufficient number of Council members to be present to ensure decisions could be made, particularly when other Council members were absent.

Chairman Martinez emphasized the importance of consensus-building and negotiation among all eight Council members for the betterment of the community. Chairman Martinez advised that in the absence of Council members, decisions would be made by half of the attending members; specifically, two Councilors if four were present, or four Councilors if all eight were in attendance.

Councilor Montoya asked if a Council member on temporary absence would appoint an individual to said position.

City Attorney Zamora stated that the action was not permissible.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve expanding the number of Council members from four (4) to eight (8), subject to a community vote. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	No	Michael Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

3. Recommendation, approval to adjust the compensation for Mayor and Council.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora advised the recommended language from the Charter Commission was annual compensation for the Mayor, which would be in an amount equal to 80% and in an amount equal to 60% of the maximum amount that was authorized by the Legislature to be paid to County Commissioners.

City Attorney Zamora stated that the Charter Commission's proposed language stipulated the Mayor's annual compensation would be 80% of the maximum amount authorized by the Legislature for County Commissioners, and 60% for Councilors.

Councilor Casey voiced her concern that the community might not approve of the compensation amounts chosen by the Governing Body, suggesting the current compensation level be maintained.

Mayor Romero asked about the possibility of including an additional question within the ballot question.

Contracted City Attorney Zamora stated he would investigate how to create a summary within the description, and advised that it would not include a specific amount.

City Manager Robert A. Anaya recommended that the Charter Commission clarify the recommendations and outline the options for voters.

Councilor Montoya asked about the number of times the item had been subject to a referendum.

City Clerk Casandra Fresquez stated that the measure was presented to voters in the last election but was not approved.

Councilor Montoya asked about the requested compensation.

City Clerk Fresquez stated the compensation was consistent with the County's.

Councilor Montoya mentioned that the State Statute states the Legislature determined the salaries for elected officials. Councilor Montoya stated that according to the law, municipalities were entitled to the same compensation as the County. Councilor Montoya recommended option one, proposing \$15,000 for the entire Governing Body.

Councilor Martinez recommended public education on the salary process, clarifying the distinction between County and City compensation.

Councilor Martinez made a motion to approve the recommended compensation by the Charter Commission. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion.

Mayor Romero stated that the Municipal Charter was developed by a community committee composed of Benito Pacheco, Ashley Arellanes, Meredith Britt, Joseph Cruz, Joseph Dominguez, and Matt Martinez. Mayor Romero stated that the community members were expected to present their justification for an increase in compensation for the Governing Body.

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael Montoya	No	Marvin Martinez	Yes
Barbara Casey	No	David Ulibarri	No

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion was not carried.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve option 1 for the annual income of the Governing Body, setting the amount at \$15,000 for all. Councilor Ulibarri

seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	Michael Montoya	Yes
Marvin Martinez	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Montoya expressed gratitude to the Charter Commission for their extensive work. Councilor Montoya asked if the length of the Governing Body's form might deter public engagement.

City Clerk Fresquez stated the ballot form would be brief, appearing in a shell format. City Clerk Fresquez advised that they would be the sole questions on the ballot and that staff would inform the public through education and social media advertising.

Councilor Montoya requested that the document be posted on the City of Las Vegas website for public review once it had been voted on.

Mayor Romero requested a proposed budget for public education advertisements.

City Manager Robert A. Anaya advised he would present his findings once received.

ADJOURN

Councilor Casey made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 12:23 pm.

Mayor David Romero

ATTEST:

Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 09, 2025 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

MAYOR: David Romero

COUNCILORS: Marvin Martinez
Barbara Casey
Michael L. Montoya *Via Zoom/Cellphone*
David Ulibarri

ALSO PRESENT: Robert A. Anaya, City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Caleb Marquez, Sergeant at Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Romero called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Councilor Casey asked for a moment of silence to pray for those who had passed away and their families. Councilor Casey expressed gratitude for a successful Fourth of July Fiestas celebration in the City of Las Vegas and thanked the staff for their contributions.

Mayor Romero asked for a moment of silence for the residents of Ruidoso, New Mexico, following the tragic flooding and asked everyone to keep them in their prayers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Martinez made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS/REPORTS AND RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- Recognition of Lieutenant Michael E. Lopez retired after 20 years of service with the City of Las Vegas.

Police Chief Caleb Marquez recognized Lieutenant Michael E. Lopez for his 20 years of service with the City of Las Vegas Police Department and thanked Lieutenant Lopez for all he's done.

Mayor Romero and the City Council recognized and thanked Lieutenant Lopez for his 20 years of dedicated service to the City of Las Vegas.

Lieutenant Lopez expressed gratitude to the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to serve the City of Las Vegas.

Mayor Romero mentioned that City Manager Robert A. Anaya, Water Director Travis Martinez and himself attended a panel with the Water and Natural Resource Committee and the New Mexico Finance Authority. Mayor Romero advised that the panel provided an opportunity to explain the water treatment plant issues that had occurred. Mayor Romero extended his gratitude to the Utilities department for their efforts.

COUNCILORS' REPORTS

Councilor Ulibarri extended his gratitude to the staff for their efforts in organizing the Fourth of July Fiestas.

Councilor Casey thanked staff for organizing the Fourth of July Fiestas. Councilor Casey also expressed concern regarding communication and transparency between the City of Las Vegas and the community, stressing the importance of mutual communication. Councilor Casey thanked Water Director Martinez for his representation of the City at a meeting with the State Legislature of Water Resources.

Councilor Martinez advised he attended the State Legislature of Water Resources meeting. Councilor Martinez also thanked staff for organizing the Fourth of July Fiestas.

Councilor Montoya advised that City Manager Robert A. Anaya and himself had met with New Mexico Economic Development Director and Cabinet Secretary Rob Black. Councilor Montoya stated that their discussion was centered on available funds and confirmed the Economic Development office's commitment to collaborating with the City of Las Vegas on grant applications. Councilor Montoya announced that Las Vegas, NM, would host the State Preservation Conference in the fall. Councilor Montoya concluded by commending staff for their hard work in preparing and organizing the Fourth of July Fiestas.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Robert A. Anaya thanked Lieutenant Lopez for his 20 years of dedicated service to the City of Las Vegas. City Manager Anaya stated he comprehended the concerns of the Governing Body and was going to conquer those challenges for the betterment of the community.

City Manager Anaya stated the following into the record:

"The process of listening and learning from the Mayor, Council, staff and community continues. City Manager Anaya advised as the City had progressed beyond the initial phase of the signing of the Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of New Mexico, he's been able to understand the broader scope of the City of Las Vegas operations and the challenges and opportunities that rest within each department.

July Fiesta

City Manager Anaya stated he sought City staff beyond the Fiestas once again and was thankful for the individual efforts of Charles Griego. City Manager Anaya stated he was fully aware of the success of the event that began with the direction and approval of the Mayor and City Council and the collective work of city wide staff and the many community volunteers and support structures that made it all a success. City Manager Anaya stated the City had learning opportunities to build from and mentioned he would work with the Mayor and Council and as a team to advance collective planning efforts towards the next fiesta.

Communications and Deadlines

City Manager Anaya advised he was working across all departments to improve internal and external communications including but not limited to city-wide calendars that track necessary work and outcomes on a continuous basis. City Manager Anaya thanked City Clerk Casandra Fresquez and all of the departments for their continued communications and efforts.

Financial Management and Accountability

City Manager Anaya advised Finance Director Morris Madrid, the Finance department, and himself conducted department budget reviews to clarify and refine the document before it was presented to the Mayor and Council for review, amended and approved. City Manager Anaya advised Finance Director Madrid and himself were in the process of coordinating a work session to review the budget in its entirety with the Mayor and Council.

City Manager Anaya advised the Finance department had been working diligently to provide the final documents necessary to complete the audit report. City Manager Anaya mentioned the exit conference was scheduled for the upcoming Friday, and the audit report would be submitted to the State Auditor for their review. City Manager Anaya stated the above action would help the City avoid challenges moving forward.

City Manager Anaya asked Finance Director Morris Madrid to summarize the budget process and the audit report.

Finance Director Madrid outlined the budget process, explaining that each department was allocated a budget that was previously approved by the Governing Body. Finance Director Madrid advised that he attended meetings with City Manager Anaya, department directors, and the Finance department to discuss individual departmental budgets and fund responsibilities. Finance Director Madrid advised simple, reasonable, and necessary revisions were incorporated. Finance Director Madrid advised any excessive funding requests required a joint review by City Manager Anaya and himself to finalize a refined interim budget.

Finance Director Madrid stated that all required documentation had been submitted to the Auditors. Finance Director Madrid advised that the draft financial statements had been received and reviewed. Finance Director Madrid mentioned per the State Auditor, the disclosed information could not be discussed at that time, however responses to the audit findings would be compiled and released for public review once approved by the State Auditor.

Water Supply and Compliance

City Manager Anaya mentioned that Water Director Travis Martinez noted a positive report back from the Drinking Water Bureau following up on the City's six months of compliant water with the Drinking Water Bureau. City Manager Anaya mentioned the City of Las Vegas had also received an award for the Water Treatment Plant.

Water Director Martinez provided an update on the meeting with the Drinking Water Bureau. Water Director Martinez stated that the discussion focused on the City's compliance violations and the provision of technical assistance. Water Director Martinez stated that a draft document had been submitted to the Drinking Water Bureau, which was prepared internally without a contractor. Water Director Martinez stated once the document was finalized, the focus would shift to completing the CPE to prevent future violations. Water Director Martinez mentioned that the 2024 sanitary survey was expected to be finalized by the end of July and while the City remained out of compliance with the running annual average, the issue would be resolved as the six-month period came to an end, completing a full year of the running annual average. Water Director Martinez

stated it would facilitate the lifting of the administrative order against the City of Las Vegas and mentioned for the past six months, the City had been in compliance with byproducts.

City Manager Anaya expressed gratitude to the Governing Body and staff for their support and emphasized that all their engagements and opportunities were undertaken in partnership and coordination with the Mayor and Council.

City Manager Anaya welcomed Jimmy Saiz, a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and the new Program and Project Liaison for the City of Las Vegas.

Legislative Meetings

City Manager Anaya advised Mayor Romero, Councilor Martinez, Water Director Travis Martinez, Caleb Marquez, Public Information Officer Amanda Salas, and himself attended the Legislative Water and Natural Resources Committee on July 1, 2025. City Manager Anaya mentioned the meeting was productive and informative. City Manager Anaya asked Mayor Romero and Water Director Martinez if they had anything to add to the topic.

Secretary Black Economic Development Department Meeting

City Manager Anaya mentioned Councilor Montoya and himself had participated in a discussion oriented around Economic Development within the region. City Manager Anaya stated that there were several opportunities for continued partnership as well as grant opportunities. City Manager Anaya mentioned that Councilor Montoya had attended two meetings on the topic.

Mayor and Council Communications

City Manager Anaya mentioned that he's met with the Mayor and Council and will continue to meet on a regular basis to understand and follow up on concerns and issues as they arise within the City. City Manager Anaya mentioned he valued the coordination and partnership with department directors and staff who work through matters as they arise within the City.

Organizational Chart New Hires

City Manager Anaya thanked and welcomed Mr. Jimmy Saiz to the team and mentioned he would be assisting as the Project/Program Outreach Liaison and will be assisting city-wide to facilitate project and program support and outcomes. City Manager Anaya stated that he had selected an Executive Assistant to facilitate the operations of the Executive Office and mentioned she was in the final stages of the pre-employment process with an anticipated start date of July 21, 2025.

San Miguel County Emergency Management Meeting Request

City Manager Anaya stated that in the wake of the challenges in Ruidoso and Texas, he felt it was appropriate to reach out to San Miguel County to work towards improved communication and coordination. City Manager Anaya mentioned that he would update the Governing Body as he received feedback.

Ruidoso Support and Help

City Manager Anaya mentioned that they had reached out to Ruidoso to offer support and assistance and had sent a list of available resources. City Manager Anaya asked if there were any questions, comments or feedback regarding the topic.

Police Chief Marquez stated that other City officials and himself had attended a meeting in regards to the Ruidoso, New Mexico tragic event and discussed ways the City of Las Vegas could assist in gathering necessities to deliver to the residents in a timely manner.

Public Works Director Arnold Lopez stated that the City of Las Vegas would deliver 10 pallets (7,000 cartons) of water the following morning to Ruidoso. Public Works Director Lopez advised the City had offered additional help including equipment to clean the debris; however, they weren't prepared for the aid.

Community Development Director Lucas Marquez thanked those who helped position the City to support others during a crisis. Community Development Director Marquez stated that the City was doing everything possible to assist Ruidoso while also monitoring the reserves for the upcoming monsoon season.

Mayor Romero expressed gratitude to City staff for their ongoing support to Ruidoso during their time of need.

Public Information Officer Amanda Salas stated that donations would be received by the Public Works department and promptly shipped to Ruidoso residents.

Police Chief Marquez expressed gratitude to City staff for their efforts.

Councillor Ulibarri mentioned the severe condition of streets in Ward 1 and asked City Manager Anaya to assess the issue. Councilor Ulibarri mentioned that he received daily calls from concerned constituents in Ward 1 regarding the streets.

City Manager Anaya advised that he had met with department directors and mentioned they provided him with a tour of the City, which helped him understand the extent of the challenges to bring the roads up to standard.”

PRESENTATIONS/POSSIBLE DIRECTION

- Presentation by MainStreet de Las Vegas giving the fourth (4th) quarter fiscal year 2024-2025 report.

Tasha Martinez, President of the MainStreet de Las Vegas board apologized for the absence of a report to present to the Governing Body due to a transition of the Executive Director.

Councilor Casey advised that the mural near the Lowe’s grocery store needed to be redone due to the grammatical errors.

Ms. Martinez extended her gratitude to Councilor Casey for highlighting the issue and she would contact the mural artist to correct the errors and expressed her hope that the Governing Body had seen the mural at Rodriguez Park.

Councilor Ulibarri inquired about the completion date of the mural at Rodriguez Park.

Ms. Martinez stated the mural artist intended to complete the mural but the artist's ability to use the lift to finish the mural was dependent on the weather.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the minutes from June 18th, 2025 with minor corrections. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Request approval of contract between the City of Las Vegas and MainStreet de Las Vegas for the fiscal year 2025-2026.

Community Development Director Lucas Marquez stated that the City of Las Vegas was obligated to contribute \$46,000 toward the contract. Community Development Director Marquez advised it was due to the community's population falling within the 5,000 to 15,000 range.

Councilor Montoya voiced his concern regarding item #2 within the contract stating the installation of the buffalo sculpture at the Plaza Park and mentioned that the final approval should be stated within the contract to be determined by the Governing Body. Councilor Montoya also voiced his concern, asserting that the Plaza Park was the property of the citizens of Las Vegas and not privately owned and mentioned the citizens should have a vote in the sculpture.

Community Development Director Marquez stated that he informed the Design Review Board of the buffalo sculpture, seeking their input on its optimal placement within the Plaza Park. Community Development Director Marquez assured that the sculpture's installation would not proceed without prior presentation to the Design Review Board and final approval from the Governing Body.

Councilor Montoya questioned the extent of citizen involvement in the sculpture's design.

Community Development Director Marquez stated that the Design Review Board had publicized a notice regarding the sculpture's presentation and invited public input on the item.

Councilor Montoya inquired if a site had been selected for the sculpture.

Community Development Director Marquez stated that several sites had been selected, but none were finalized. Community Development Director Marquez stated that the sites would first go to the Design Review Board for their input, and then to the Governing Body for final approval.

Councilor Montoya recommended that City Manager Anaya implement a process, qualification, or ordinance for individuals seeking to add items to the Plaza Park, citing concerns about the park being congested. Councilor Montoya expressed his concern regarding item #4 within the contract stating that it excluded the City of Las Vegas residents. Councilor Montoya suggested that the Governing Body either vote on an individual from the community or allow residents from each Ward to choose their own representative. Councilor Montoya also voiced his concern regarding item #1, stating that the economic development reports should be presented to the Governing Body for awareness.

Mayor Romero inquired if City staff had sought help from MainStreet to find a location for the buffalo sculpture.

Community Development Director Marquez stated that the Design Review Board recommended hiring an engineer to identify a suitable location; however, the City of Las Vegas lacked the funds for this purpose and had sought assistance from MainStreet to find a location.

Mayor Romero inquired if MainStreet's technical support, as stipulated in their contract with the City of Las Vegas, was the sole reason he had sought their assistance in the stated situation.

Community Development Director Marquez confirmed that the City had exclusively enlisted MainStreet's assistance to identify a suitable location for the sculpture.

Councilor Montoya inquired about the mural dedicated to the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon Fires and what the status was.

Mayor Romero advised he was uncertain of the mural's status.

Community Development Director Marquez stated that the mural piece had not been presented to the Design Review Board, but rather directly to the Governing Body before his tenure as director. Community Development Director Marquez advised that the Governing Body had approved the project, and believed it was inappropriate to bypass a committee. Community Development Director Marquez stated he would refer the project back to the Design Review Board.

Mayor Romero inquired what the status of the mural was.

Community Development Director Maquez advised that the Governing Body's direct approval of the project, bypassing the Design Review Board, caused considerable upset among the Design Review Board members. Community Development Director Marquez stated that despite their approval or disapproval, the Design Review Board was compelled to agree due to the Governing Body's ultimate authority on project placement and approval.

Councilor Montoya inquired about the historical context of the buffalo mural placement in the Plaza Park.

Community Development Director Marquez suggested presenting the question to the Design Review Board for recommendations.

Mayor Romero expressed gratitude for the strong relationship between the City of Las Vegas and MainStreet de Las Vegas and acknowledged President Tasha Martinez.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the contract between the City of Las Vegas and MainStreet de Las Vegas for the fiscal year 2025-2026. Councilor

Montoya seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes	Michael Montoya	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

2. Request approval of Resolution 25-24 to apply for the FY 25/26 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and authorize the Mayor and/or City Manager to act as the City's Chief Executive Officer and represent all matters pertaining to the City of Las Vegas' participation in the CDBG Program.

Councilor Martinez made a motion to approve Resolution 25-24 to apply for the FY 25/26 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and authorize the Mayor and/or City Manager to act as the City's Chief Executive Officer and represent all matters pertaining to the City of Las Vegas' participation in the CDBG Program. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion.

Resolution No. 25-24 was presented as follows: *Due to the length of the document a copy may be obtained from the City of Las Vegas, City Clerk's Office.*

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

3. Request approval to award RFB 2025-26 Great Blocks-phase II to GM Emulsions, LLC in the amount of \$996,049.85 bid lot 1 and bid lot 2, \$1,148,297.51 if funding is available to include NMGR. Total project amount being \$2,144,347.37.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve to award RFB 2025-26 Great Blocks-phase II to GM Emulsions, LLC in the amount of \$996,049.85 bid lot 1 and bid lot 2, \$1,148,297.51 if funding is available to include NMGR. Total project amount being \$2,144,347.37. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Michael Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

4. Request approval of Resolution No. 25-23 A & B to accept the grant offer and apply for a match waiver for the fiscal year 2026 Cooperative Agreement (COOP).

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve Resolution No. 25-23 A & B to accept the grant offer and apply for a match waiver for the fiscal year 2026 Cooperative Agreement (COOP). Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion.

Resolution No. 25-23 was presented as follows: *Due to the length of the document a copy may be obtained from the City of Las Vegas, City Clerk's Office.*

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes	Michael Montoya	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

5. Request approval of a salary increase of \$1.50 to the regular hourly rate of pay to all non-bargaining unit employees (excluding At-Will employees) who have successfully completed a 6-month probationary period, to include part-time employees with at least one year of continuous employment with the City of Las Vegas and a \$1.00 increase to their regular hourly rate of pay at their anniversary/annual date of hire. Increase minimum wage to \$16.00 for all current and future employees.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve a salary increase of \$1.50 to the regular hourly rate of pay to all non-bargaining unit employees (excluding At-Will employees) who have successfully completed a 6-month probationary period, to include part-time employees with at least one year of continuous employment with the City of Las Vegas and a \$1.00 increase to their regular hourly rate of pay at their anniversary/annual date of hire. Increase minimum wage to \$16.00 for all current and future employees. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael Montoya	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes
Marvin Martinez	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

6. Request Publication of Ordinance No. 25-05 amending Water Ordinance 12-13 and Section 440-6E of the municipal code pertaining to water service rates, deposits and service charges.

Water Director Travis Martinez advised the ordinance would only affect the water service taps.

Mayor Romero inquired if it was for publication only.

Water Director Martinez stated yes, it was only for publication.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the Publication of Ordinance No. 25-05 amending Water Ordinance 12-13 and Section 440-6E of the municipal code pertaining to water service rates, deposits and service charges. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion.

Ordinance No. 25-05 was presented as follows: *Due to the length of the document a copy may be obtained from the City of Las Vegas, City Clerk's Office.*

Councilor Montoya recommended that City Manager Anaya monitor the ordinance, noting that costs had not been increased in over 25 years. Councilor Montoya suggested that prices be raised gradually and reviewed every five years.

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Water Director Martinez advised that a meeting was held where it was decided that constituent applications would reflect the current cost of materials at the time of the application.

7. Review and Approval of the contract with American Medical Response (AMR) for ambulance services.

Councilor Casey asked whether the County had approved the item and proposed the same.

Fire Chief Steven Spann confirmed the item's approval by the County Manager, and the action was taken before the commission the previous day.

Councilor Montoya asked Fire Chief Spann whether a letter from City Manager Anaya or the Chief himself was sent out regarding AMR's non-compliance with manpower and response in a timely manner.

Fire Chief Spann and Contracted City Attorney Geno Zamora recommended the City send a letter, despite having already sent one on May 29th, emphasizing the importance of official City communication.

City Manager Anaya stated he would personally dispatch a letter to AMR concerning their non-compliance.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve the contract with American Medical Response (AMR) for ambulance services. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

8. Request approval of Resolution No. 25-25 adopting an infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP).

City Manager Anaya suggested adding additional language within the ICIP to include public safety communication.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve Resolution No. 25-25 adopting an infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP). Councilor Montoya seconded the motion.

Resolution No. 25-25 was presented as follows: *Due to the length of the document a copy may be obtained from the City of Las Vegas, City Clerk's Office.*

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Mayor Romero and Councilor Casey thanked City Project Consultant Robert Archuleta for his contributions.

Councilor Martinez asked if an amendment to the motion was necessary to incorporate additional language to the ICIP.

City Project Consultant Archuleta stated that the amendment was delayed because the DFA was in the process of transferring data.

City Project Consultant Archuleta expressed his gratitude to the staff for their efforts.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Casey made a motion to convene into executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy, as permitted by section 10-15-1 (H) (5) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Discussion regarding the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4625 (IAFF) agreement and limited personnel matters, as permitted by section 10-15-1 (H) (2), of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Discussion regarding the re-organization of various departments. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes

City Clerk Fresquest advised the motion carried.

Councilor Casey made a motion to exit executive session and reconvene into regular session after being in executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy, as permitted by section 10-15-1 (H) (5) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Discussion regarding the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4625 (IAFF) agreement and limited personnel matters, as permitted by section 10-15-1 (H) (2) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Discussion regarding the re-organization of various departments, no further action was taken. Councilor Montoya seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4625 (IAFF) agreement.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4625 (IAFF) agreement as presented. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Michael Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Mayor Romero expressed his gratitude to the Union for their contributions.

ADJOURN

Councilor Casey made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Mayor David Romero

ATTEST:

Cassandra Fresquez, City Clerk



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA REQUEST FORM**

Meeting Date: 7/29/2025

Date Submitted: July 23, 2025

Department: Finance

Item/Topic: Approval of Resolution 25-27 to approve the final quarter report for 2024-2025 for submission to the Department of Finance & Administration, Local Government Division Requirements.

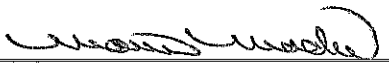
Fiscal Impact: N/A

Attachments: Fourth Quarter DFA Report

THIS REQUEST FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY ONE AND A HALF WEEKS PRIOR TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Approved For Submittal By:

Reviewed By:


Department Director


Finance Director


City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S USE ONLY
COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN**

Resolution No. _____

Continued To: _____

Ordinance No. _____

Referred To: _____

Contract No. _____

Denied _____

Approved _____

Other _____

CITY OF LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO
Resolution No. 25-27

**A RESOLUTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE FINAL FY2024-2025
DFA REPORT**

WHEREAS, the Governing Body in and for the Municipality of the City of Las Vegas, State of New Mexico has developed the Final Quarter Report for Fiscal Year 2024-2025; and

WHEREAS, the final quarterly report has been reviewed and approved to ensure the accuracy of the beginning balances used on the fiscal year 2025-2026; and

WHEREAS, it is hereby certified that the contents in this report are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and that this report depicts all funds for fiscal year 2024-2025; and

WHEREAS, it is the majority opinion of this governing body the Final Budget meet the requirements as currently determined of Fiscal Year 2025-2026; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Las Vegas, that the recitals and any exhibits are incorporated herein by reference and the Governing Body hereby approves the aforementioned final quarterly report request and respectfully requests approval from the Local Governing Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED this day 29th of July 2025.

Mayor David Romero

ATTEST:

Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA REQUEST FORM**

Meeting Date: 7/29/25

Date Submitted: July 23, 2025

Department: Finance

Item/Topic: Approval of Resolution 25-28 to adopt the Final FY2025-2026 Budget as per Department of Finance & Administration, Local Government Division Requirements.


Fiscal Impact: FY2025-2026 Operating Budget

Attachments: FY2025-2026 Budget Books.

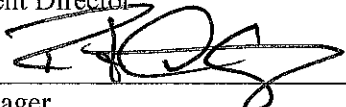
THIS REQUEST FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY ONE AND A HALF WEEKS PRIOR TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Approved For Submittal By:

Reviewed By:


Department Director


Finance Director


City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S USE ONLY
COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN**

Resolution No. _____
Ordinance No. _____
Contract No. _____
Approved _____

Referred To: _____

Continued To: _____

Denied _____
Other _____

CITY OF LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO
Resolution No. 25-28

A RESOLUTION FOR THE FINAL BUDGET ADOPTION 2025-2026
FISCAL YEAR

WHEREAS, the Governing Body in and for the Municipality of the City of Las Vegas, State of New Mexico has developed a Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; and

WHEREAS, said budget was developed on basis of need through cooperation with all user departments, elected officials and other department supervisors, City Administration and elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the official meeting for the review of said documents was posted publicly on July 25, 2025 in compliance with State Open Meetings Act; and

WHEREAS, it is the majority opinion of this governing body the Final Budget meet the requirements as currently determined of Fiscal Year 2025-2026; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Las Vegas, that the recitals and any exhibits are incorporated herein by reference and the Governing Body hereby approves the aforementioned final budget request and respectfully requests approval from the Local Governing Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED this day 29th of July 2025.

Mayor David Romero

ATTEST:

Reviewed and approved as to legal sufficiency only:

Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk

City Attorney