



1       **WHEREAS, each new Mayor holds complete discretion to appoint new**  
2 **leadership to oversee critical city services like the Police Department, the Fire**  
3 **Department, the Airport, the Parks Department, the Planning Department, and**  
4 **the Health and Human Services, to name a few; and**

5       **WHEREAS, Conversely, critical city services in Council-Manager forms of**  
6 **government can be led by personnel hired based exclusively on their**  
7 **qualifications, and can remain serving based on their capabilities as opposed**  
8 **to who wins an election; and**

9       **WHEREAS, as we have seen in Albuquerque and other Cities, a Mayor-**  
10 **Council form of government can be quite successful, but there is nothing to**  
11 **preclude the City of Albuquerque from re-evaluating its form of government**  
12 **from time to time; and**

13       **WHEREAS, the Strong Mayor form of government is not the only form of**  
14 **government available to the City of Albuquerque and several other modern,**  
15 **major cities in our region successfully operate under a Council-Manager form**  
16 **of government including El Paso, Phoenix, and Las Vegas, Nevada; and**

17       **WHEREAS, most Council-Manager forms of government still include a**  
18 **critical role for a Mayor where the Mayor is integrated into the City Council as**  
19 **its presiding member, as opposed to being part of a separate branch of**  
20 **government; and**

21       **WHEREAS, there may be an opportunity to make Albuquerque's local**  
22 **government more efficient, stable, and fiscally responsible over the long-term**  
23 **by operating as a different form of government; and**

24       **WHEREAS, data gathering and interviewing other municipalities of**  
25 **Albuquerque's size in regards to their form of government may highlight the**  
26 **benefits and shortcomings of other forms of government; and**

27       **WHEREAS, any major change to the City of Albuquerque's form of**  
28 **government would only be possible through an amendment to the city charter;**  
29 **and**

30       **WHEREAS, the intention of this resolution is only to describe an intent to**  
31 **begin an exploratory process in which facts can be presented to the Council**  
32 **and the Administration regarding other forms of government.**

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY  
2 OF ALBUQUERQUE:

3 SECTION 1. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

4 The City Council services Department shall engage a qualified consultant  
5 to conduct research and synthesize findings on the various forms of  
6 government. Such research shall, at a minimum, include:

7 a. An overview of alternative forms of government available to the City  
8 of Albuquerque, to include hybrid options of the primary forms of government;  
9 and

10 b. An analysis of data from peer municipalities relating how their form  
11 of government may bear a relationship to the strength of their local economy,  
12 their ability to offer continuity in municipal services, and the relative economic  
13 efficiency of their operations; and

14 c. A professional recommendation based on the findings from the  
15 report to identify the relative strength of Albuquerque's current form of  
16 government for its constituents in terms of efficiency and transparency, and  
17 reasonable alternatives.

18 SECTION 2. PRESENTATION OF DATA

19 A presentation shall be made to both the City Council and the  
20 Administration no later than 12 months after the execution of a contract for the  
21 research and analysis outlined in Section 1. This presentation shall highlight  
22 the findings from the research and the recommendation as prepared by the  
23 consultant.

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