

INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS ORDINANCE NO. 757

AN ORDINANCE PROPOSING AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 305, SUBSECTION 305.3, OF THE CHARTER OF THE INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORATE FOR ADOPTION OR REJECTION AT A GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026, PERTAINING TO STANDING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEES

WHEREAS, local government is best served by creating standing boards and commissions by ordinance, ad hoc committees by Council action, and membership to such boards, commissions and committees by Council appointment; and

WHEREAS, the County Council finds that citizen participation on standing boards and commissions is essential to maintaining pluralism in the citizens' county government as the standing boards and commissions give voice to diverse groups, interests, and ideologies that must coexist, interact, and share power for democratic values to thrive and remain vital in this community, and

WHEREAS, citizen participation on standing boards and commission provides insight and expertise on issues the citizens' county government address; and

WHEREAS, removing the political party membership requirements from certain County boards will expand opportunities for broader citizen participation; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2026, the County Council voted affirmatively to formally propose an amendment to Article III, Section 305, Subsection 305.3 of the Charter, as set forth herein.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS that the following provisions be adopted and proposed to the electorate as potential changes to the Los Alamos County Charter and proposed to the voters at the general election on November 3, 2026:

Section 1. The County Council proposes that the electorate adopt the amendment to Article III, Section 305, Subsection 305.3, of the Charter of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos, as follows:

Section 305.3. Composition of Standing Boards and Commissions.

No more than a simple majority of the voting members of ~~[any standing board or commission of the Council]~~ the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Board of Public Utilities, or the Personnel Board shall be members of the same political party.

Section 2. The above proposed amendment recommended for adoption by the County Council shall be submitted to the electorate, along with any other proposed amendments to the Charter relating to structure of government, as a single ballot question for adoption or rejection on the election ballot and shall be filed with the County Clerk not less than sixty (60) days prior to the November 3, 2026 election.

Section 3. The full text of the above proposed amendment shall be published at least twenty (20) days prior to the November 3, 2026, election and such publication shall indicate that the amendment is being submitted to the electorate for adoption or rejection at the November 3, 2026 election. The full text of the proposed amendment shall be posted at each voting place.

Section 4. Should any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance, for any reason, be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after publication of its notice of adoption. If adopted by the majority of voters, the amendment to the Charter shall be effective thirty (30) days after certification of the election results by the County Council.

ADOPTED this 7th day of July 2026.

**COUNCIL OF THE INCORPORATED
COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS**

Randall T. Ryti,
Council Chair

ATTEST: (SEAL)

Michael D. Redondo,
Los Alamos County Clerk