

**THE CHARTER
of the
CITY OF RIVERSIDE**

PREAMBLE

We, the people of the City of Riverside believe in promoting an inclusive community with shared economic, environmental and cultural prosperity, equal civil and political rights, social harmony and cohesion, and opportunities for all governed by responsible and responsive public officials who promote citizen participation, as well as just and equitable tax and financial policies; and these beliefs are rooted in our desire to enhance the uniqueness of the City of Riverside.

We, the people of the City of Riverside, to obtain and retain for ourselves the benefits of local government, do hereby exercise the express right granted by the Constitution and the statutes of the State of California and enact this Charter for the City of Riverside. (Effective 10/23/2012)

ARTICLE I. INCORPORATION AND SUCCESSION.

- §100. Name and boundaries.
- §101. Succession to rights and liabilities.
- §102. Continuance of ordinances, rules and regulations.
- §103. Continuance of present officers and employees.
- §104. Effective date of Charter.

ARTICLE II. GENERAL POWERS OF CITY.

- §200. Generally.
- §201. Access to public meetings and public records.
- §202. Adoption of ethics code.

ARTICLE III. FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

- §300. Designated.

ARTICLE IV. CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR.

- §400. Enumerated; number, term and manner of election; wards.
- §401. Eligibility to hold the office; member of the City Council; Mayor.
- §402. Wards established.
- §403. Compensation.
- §404. Vacancies.
- §405. Duties of Mayor; Mayor Pro Tempore; Council tie--Mayor's vote.
- §406. City powers vested in Council; exceptions.
- §407. Interference in administrative service.
- §408. Meetings.
- §409. Same--Location.
- §410. Same--Quorum; proceedings.
- §411. Same--Citizen participation.
- §412. Powers of Council and Mayor; additional.
- §413. Adoption of ordinances and resolutions.
- §414. Publication of ordinances.
- §415. Codification of ordinances; adoption by reference.
- §416. Effective date of ordinances.

- §417. Violation of ordinances and penalty therefor.
- §418. Contracts--Restriction on duration.
- §419. Same--Execution.

ARTICLE V. ELECTIONS.

- §500. General municipal elections.
- §501. Special municipal elections.
- §502. Compliance with State law.
- §503. Initiative, referendum and recall.

ARTICLE VI. CITY MANAGER.

- §600. Creation of office; appointment; tenure; eligibility of elective officers.
- §601. Powers and duties.
- §602. Participation in meetings of Council, boards and commissions.
- §603. Manager pro tempore.

ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES GENERALLY.

- §700. Appointment of City Attorney and City Clerk by Council; tenure.
- §701. Organization of City operations and activities.
- §702. Eligibility, powers and duties of City Attorney.
- §703. Powers and duties of City Clerk.
- §704. Controller.
- §706. Administering oaths.
- §707. Appointive powers of department heads.
- §708. Acceptance of another office by elective officer.
- §709. Nepotism.

ARTICLE VIII. APPOINTIVE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

- §800. In general.
- §801. Appropriations.
- §802. Appointments; terms.
- §803. Terms of members of existing enumerated boards and commissions.
- §804. Organization; meetings; subpoena power.
- §805. Compensation; vacancies.
- §806. Planning Commission.
- §807. Human Resources Board--Composition.
- §808. Board of Library Trustees.
- §809. Park and Recreation Commission.
- §810. Community Police Review Commission.

ARTICLE IX. PERSONNEL MERIT SYSTEM.

- §900. Generally.

ARTICLE X. RETIREMENT.

- §1000. Authority to continue under State system.

ARTICLE XI. FISCAL ADMINISTRATION.

- §1100. Fiscal year.
- §1101. Budget--Submission to Council; notice of public hearing.
- §1102. Same--Public hearing.
- §1103. Same--Further consideration, revision and adoption; availability to departments, etc.
- §1104. Same--Appropriations; transfer of funds.

- §1105. Centralized purchasing.
- §1106. Tax limits; special levy for library purposes.
- §1107. Procedure for assessment, levy and collection of taxes.
- §1108. General obligation bonded debt limit; vote required for issuing general obligation bonds; issuance of revenue bonds, notes and other evidence of indebtedness.
- §1109. Public works contracts.
- §1110. Cash management.
- §1111. Capital projects funds.
- §1112. Registering warrants.
- §1113. Independent audit.
- §1114. Use of design-build procurement for public works projects.

ARTICLE XII. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

- §1200. Created; management and control.
- §1201. Board of Public Utilities--Composition; applicability of Article VIII of Charter.
- §1202. Same--Powers and duties.
- §1203. Purchases and expenditures generally; exemption from centralized purchasing system.
- §1204. Use of revenue.
- §1204.1. Water utility revenue.
- §1205. Sale of public utility.

ARTICLE XIII. FRANCHISES.

- §1300. Requiring; granting generally; applicability to City-owned utility.
- §1301. Resolution of intention to grant; notice and public hearing.
- §1302. Term of franchise.
- §1303. Eminent domain.

ARTICLE XIV. MISCELLANEOUS.

- §1400. Definitions.
- §1401. Violations and penalty.
- §1402. Severability.
- §1403. Charter Review Committee.
- §1404. Charter, amending.
- §1405. Pending actions.