

**Trini Lopez**  
Mayor

**Sergio Cox**  
At Large

**Josie Trillo**  
District 1



**Mary E. Perez**  
District 2 / Mayor Pro Tem

**Victor Perez**  
District 3

**Al Gutierrez**  
District 4

**Carol Garcia**  
City Manager

**ORDINANCE NO. 264**

**AN ORDINANCE ORDERING AN ELECTION BY THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ON THE SECOND SATURDAY IN MAY, BEING THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2008 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CHARTER FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS:**

**SECTION I.**

That in compliance and accordance with the laws and constitution of the State of Texas, an election be and the same is hereby called and ordered for, the second Saturday in May, being the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2008 at which election of all qualified voters may vote for the purpose of amending the municipal charter for the City of Socorro, Texas.

**SECTION II.**

That the City Secretary for the City of Socorro, Texas together with the El Paso County Elections Administrator's office shall prepare ballots to be used in said election and shall stamp same "Official Ballot", on which shall be printed the proposed charter amendments. The proposed amendments to the charter are attached hereto as "Exhibit A".

**SECTION III.**

That each voter shall vote in favor or against each of the proposed amendments

**SECTION IV.**

That any amendment receiving a majority of votes in favor of the amendment shall result in the charter amendment being adopted as drafted.

**SECTION V.**

That the polls shall be kept open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 o'clock p.m. and that due return be made to the Council showing the number of votes cast for and the number of votes against each proposed amendment respectively.

**SECTION VI.**

That this ordinance, signed by the Mayor and attested by the City Clerk, shall constitute the proclamation of the Mayor calling and order said election, and that such notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Socorro, Texas once a week for four weeks prior thereto, and that the said City Clerk is hereby directed to post or cause to be posted said proclamation at least twenty (20) days before said election in each voting precinct.

**SECTION VII.**

That the polling places for this election and the personnel of the offices who are to hold the same, except insofar as that be charged by the City Council of Socorro, Texas, shall be as follows:

PRECINCT:	LOCATION	ADDRESS
149	Hilley Elementary School	639 Rio Vista Rd.
150	Rojas Elementary School	500 Bauman Rd.
151	Socorro High School	10150 Alameda Ave.
152	Rojas Elementary School	500 Bauman Rd.
153	Escontrias Elementary School	205 Buford Rd.
154	Campestre Elementary School	11399 Socorro Rd.

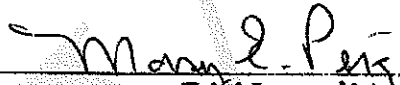
Early voting will be held as follows:

<i>Socorro High School</i>	* April 28, 2008 -- May 4, 2008	8:00 a.m. -- 5:00 p.m.
<i>10150 Alameda Ave.</i>	May 5, 2008 -- May 6, 2008	7:00 a.m. -- 7:00 p.m.
<i>Socorro, Texas 79927</i>		

- *Except Saturday and Sunday*
- And any other places as shall be designated by the County Elections Administrator.

This ordinance was duly enacted with all the requisites and formalities incident thereto the enactment of ordinances, and such is evidenced by the below signatures.

**SIGNED AND ENACTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary E. Perez  
Mayor pro tem

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Georgina Rodriguez  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Contreras  
City Attorney

**First Reading:** 02/26/08  
**Second Reading:** 03/06/08

**“EXHIBIT A”**

**Amendment No. 1**

Article III: The City Council, Number, Selection and Terms of Office, Section 3.01(B), shall be amended and shall now read:

“The Mayor and the Council members shall be elected to serve for three (3) year terms and not for more than two (2) consecutive terms.”

**Amendment No.2**

Article III: The City Council, Number Selection and Terms of Office, Section 3.01(B), shall be amended and shall now read:

“Council members shall be elected from single member districts numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4, and one position shall be At Large. The Districts will be established, determined and, district lines shall be redrawn after each federal census, if required, to comply with state and federal voting laws and regulations. Each candidate for City Council in a particular District shall be a resident of that District.”

**Amendment No. 3**

Article III. The City Council, Number Selection and Terms of Office, Section 3.01(C), shall be amended and shall now read:

“The Council positions shall serve staggered terms as determined initially by lot Three (3) Council positions will be elected to an initial three (3) year term and two (2) Council positions and Mayoral position will be elected for an initial two (2) year term commencing in the 2010 City Council general election. Thereafter each position will be elected for three (3) year terms.”

**Amendment No. 4**

Article III, The City Council, Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem, Section 3.03(D), shall be added and amended to read:

“D. The Mayor Pro Tem shall serve in his or her capacity as Mayor Pro Tem for not longer than one (1) year from the date of appointment by the City Council as prescribed by Texas Local Government Code §22.037.”

**Amendment No. 5**

Article III, The City Council, General Powers and Duties, Section 3.04(A), shall be amended and shall now read:

“Appoint, supervise and remove the City Manager by four-fifths (4/5) vote of the entire City Council”

**Amendment No. 6**

Article III, The City Council, Ordinances in General, Section 3.14(A) (4), shall be amended and shall now read:

“Any ordinance which repeals or amends an existing ordinance or a part of a City code, shall set out in full the ordinance, sections, or subsections to be repealed or amended, and shall indicate the matter to be omitted by enclosing it in brackets or by strike out type, and shall indicate new matter by underscoring or by italics. Each page of the new ordinance shall be identified at the bottom of the page with the latest revision by date.

**Amendment No. 7**

*Article IV, City Administration, City Manager, Section 4.01(A), shall be amended and shall now read:*

“City Council shall appoint a City Manager by contract approved by *four-fifths (4/5)* vote of the *entire* Council. The City Manager shall be a resident of the City of Socorro within six (6) months of employment. The City Manager must post a fidelity bond.

**Amendment No. 8**

*Article IV, City Administration, City Manager, Section 4.01(D), shall be amended and shall now read:*

“The City Council shall be prohibited from appointing the City Manager to a term by contract longer than *twenty (24)* months. The City Manager may be removed at the will and pleasure of the City Council by *four-fifths (4/5)* vote of the *entire* City Council. A severance package of more than six (6) months is prohibited.”

**Amendment No. 9**

*Article IV, City Administration, Municipal Court, Section 4.04(C), shall be amended and shall now read:*

“The Judge of the Municipal Court shall be appointed by the City Council, based on the recommendations of the City Manager. The appointment shall take place within thirty (30) days following the general election of said City Council and will be for a term of two (2) years. The Municipal Court Judge shall be qualified and shall be a resident of El Paso County, Texas. The Municipal Court Judge will serve at the will and pleasure of the City Council/City Manager and may be terminated at any time. The Judge of the Municipal Court shall be qualified and his/her compensation shall not be reduced during the term of office for which the Judge was appointed.

**Amendment No. 10**

*Article XI, Civil Service, in its entirety, shall be amended and shall now read:*

“The City of Socorro, Texas shall establish and maintain a Civil Service System for the benefit of the employees and City of Socorro, Texas. The Civil Service System shall be established by Ordinance.”

**Amendment No. 11**

*Article XII, Planning and Zoning Commission, Section 12.01(A), The Planning and Zoning Commission. Authority, Duties and Procedures, shall be amended and shall now read:*

“Review and make recommendations to the City Council regarding the adoption and implementation of a master plan and comprehensive plan, or elements or portions thereto prepared under the authorization of the City Council and under the direction of the City Manager and responsible staff;”

**Amendment No 12**

*Article XII, Planning and Zoning Commission, Section 12.01(B), The Planning and Zoning Commission. Authority, Duties and Procedures, shall be amended and shall now read:*

“After a master plan and a comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof has been adopted in conformity with this article:

1. Review and make recommendations to the City Council on all amendments or portions thereof;
2. Review and make recommendation to the Council on all proposals to adopt or amend land development regulations for the purpose of establishing the relationship of such proposal to, and its consistency with, the adopted master plan, and comprehensive plan or elements or portions thereof. For purposes of this article "land development regulations" include zoning, subdivision, building and construction codes, environmental, including water conservation, and other police power regulations controlling, regulating, or affecting the use or development of land;"

**Amendment No. 13**

*Article XII, Planning and Zoning Commission, Section 12.01(C), The Planning and Zoning Commission: Authority, Duties and Procedures, shall be amended and shall now read:*

"Pursuant to ordinances adopted by the City Council, exercise control over platting and subdividing land within the corporate limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City to insure the consistency of any such plats or subdivision with the ordinances and master plan and comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof;"

**Amendment No. 14**

*Article XII, Planning and Zoning Commission, Section 12.01(D), The Planning and Zoning Commission: Authority, Duties and Procedures, shall be amended and shall now read*

"Pursuant to ordinances adopted by the City Council exercise control over the zoning of land and land uses within the corporate limits of the City to insure the consistency of any such land use with the adopted master plan and comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof;"

**Amendment No. 15**

*Article XII, Planning and Zoning Commission, Section 12.01(E), The Planning and Zoning Commission: Authority, Duties and Procedures, shall be amended and shall now read:*

"Submit annually to the City Manager, not less than one hundred fifty days prior to the beginning of the budget year, a list of recommended capital improvements, which in the opinion of the commission are necessary or desirable to implement the adopted master plan and comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof during the forthcoming five (5) year period;"

**Amendment No. 16**

*Article XII, Planning and Zoning Commission, Section 12.01(F), The Planning and Zoning Commission: Authority, Duties and Procedures, shall be amended and shall now read:*

"Monitor and oversee the effectiveness and status of the master plan and comprehensive plan and recommend annually to the City Council any changes in or amendments to the master plan and comprehensive plan as may be desired or required;"

**Amendment No. 17**

*Article XII, Planning and Zoning Commission, Section 12.01(G), The Planning and Zoning Commission: Authority, Duties and Procedures, shall be amended and shall now read:*

“Prepare periodic evaluation and appraisal reports on the master plan and comprehensive plan which shall be sent to the City Council at least once every five (5) years after the adoption of the master plan and comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof;”

**Amendment No. 18**

*Article XII, Planning and Zoning Commission, Section 12.01(I), The Planning and Zoning Commission: Authority, Duties and Procedures, shall be amended and shall now read:*

“Act as an advisory body to the City Council and perform such additional duties and exercise such additional powers as may be prescribed by ordinance of the City Council not inconsistent with the intent of this Charter.”

**Amendment No. 19**

*Article XII, Composition and Organization, Section 12.02(A), shall be amended and shall now read:*

“The Planning and Zoning Commission will consist of seven (7) members who will serve for a term of two (2) years and a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms. Each City Council member shall appoint one (1) member and the remaining two (2) will be appointed by the Mayor. Each City Council nominee shall be approved by the whole City Council individually. Individuals nominated for membership must be qualified as follows: owner of a business within the City of Socorro, Texas, a Socorro resident, and/or legal registered voter within the City of Socorro, Texas. Each member appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission shall continue to serve on the Commission beyond the term until the member is reappointed or a new member is appointed by the City Representative or the Mayor. Two (2) alternate members shall be appointed by the Mayor to serve for a term of two (2) years. The alternates shall be on call to serve only when a regular member of the Commission is unable to serve.”