

PROPOSED DALLAS CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT

That the Dallas City Charter is hereby amended by adding Sec. 15 to Chapter XI. "Priority of Excess Revenue" as follows:

- A. If at any time the total actual, accruing or estimated annual revenue of the City exceeds the total actual annual revenue of the prior fiscal year, the City Council shall appropriate no less than 50% of such excess amount, in compliance with Section 1 of Chapter XI of this Charter, to fund the Dallas Police and Fire Pension System – Combined Plan, in the amount directed by the State Pension Review Board and/or the City Council, whichever is higher. Any monies remaining shall be appropriated to the Public Safety Objectives described below in Section B.
- B. Public Safety Objectives:
 - 1. The starting combined salary and non-pension benefits, excluding sign-on bonuses, of the police officers of the Dallas Police Department are within the top five of all city police departments (as compared to the starting combined salary and non-pension benefits) in Dallas, Collin, Tarrant, Denton, and Rockwall counties with a population over 50,000, on a per officer basis; and
 - 2. The total number of full-time sworn police officers of the police department of the City of Dallas is increased to at least 4,000 and the ratio established of 4,000 officers to Dallas city residents as of the date of the passage of this Charter Amendment is maintained or increased going forward.
 - a. Any monies appropriated to this Public Safety Objective but not spent within the fiscal year shall be transferred to a sinking fund to fund this Public Safety Objective in the subsequent fiscal year.
- C. Any monies remaining after all Public Safety Objectives defined in this Section have been met may be reappropriated by the City Council.
- D. The City, on an annual basis, shall hire a third-party firm to conduct a survey to calculate the starting combined salary and non-pension benefits, excluding sign-on bonuses, of the full-time police officers of all cities in Dallas, Collin, Tarrant, Denton, and Rockwall counties with a population over 50,000, on a per officer basis, and report the findings to the City Council. The third-party firm will be required to certify in writing to the City that it used its best efforts to include responses from each city in Dallas, Collin, Tarrant, Denton, and Rockwall counties in the annual survey, and the failure or unwillingness of any city to participate in the survey shall have no impact on either (1) the City's and the third-party firm's obligations to complete and deliver the survey required by this Section on an annual basis or (2) the City's obligations under this Chapter.
- E. As used in this Section, "revenue" shall mean all revenue collected by the City that's use is not restricted to a limited purpose under State or Federal law, including, but not limited to ad valorem property tax, sales tax, beverage taxes, asset forfeiture funds, bingo fees, cemetery taxes, impact fees, interlocal agreements, internet payment and access fees, investments, court fees, open records fees, municipal development corporation sales taxes, municipal development district taxes, pro rata fees, public improvement district assessments, right-of-way fees, special improvement district fund taxes, street assessments, time warrants, user fees, venue taxes, donations, coin-operated machine taxes, drainage fees, hotel taxes, parking fees, franchise fees, enterprise funds, charges for services, admission fees, fines and forfeitures, operating transfers from municipally controlled entities, municipal enterprises, municipally owned utilities, municipally controlled districts, licenses and permits, and interest, but shall not include any debt proceeds taken on by the City, or any grants, appropriations or other revenue received from other governmental or non-profit entities (that weren't directly or indirectly initially provided to such other governmental or non-profit entities by the City).
- F. If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Section is for any reason held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of that section, paragraph, clause, or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Section, and to this end, the provisions of this Section are declared to be severable. This Section shall supersede the Dallas City Code to the extent there are any conflicts.

PROPOSED BALLOT LANGUAGE

FOR } SHALL THE CITY CHARTER BE AMENDED TO PRIORITIZE AN APPROPRIATION
 } OF YEAR OVER YEAR CITY REVENUE INCREASES FOR SPECIFIC PUBLIC SAFETY
AGAINST } OBJECTIVES INCLUDING FUNDING THE DALLAS POLICE AND FIRE PENSION
 } SYSTEM, INCREASING THE NUMBER OF SWORN POLICE OFFICERS, AND
 } ENSURING THEIR PAY IS COMPETITIVE?