

Charter of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes

PREAMBLE

We the people of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes declare our intent to restore to our community the historic principles of self governance inherent in the doctrine of home-rule. Sincerely committed to the belief that local government has the closest affinity to the people governed, and firm in the conviction that the economic and fiscal independence of our local government will promote the health, safety and welfare of all the citizens of this City, we do hereby exercise the express right granted by the Constitution of the State of California to enact and adopt this Charter for the City of Rancho Palos Verdes.

Article I – Municipal Affairs: Generally

Section 100. Municipal Affairs. The City shall have full power and authority to adopt, make, exercise and enforce all legislation, laws, and regulations and to take all actions relating to municipal affairs that may be lawfully adopted, made, exercised, taken or enforced under the Constitution of the State of California, without limitation, *except as otherwise provided in Articles III, IV, V and VI of this Charter.*

Article II – General Laws

Section 100. General Law Powers. In addition to the power and authority granted by the terms of this Charter and the Constitution of the State of California, the City shall have the power and authority to adopt, make, exercise and enforce all legislation, laws and regulations and to take all actions and to exercise any and all rights, powers, and privileges heretofore or hereafter established, granted or prescribed by any law of the State of California or by any other lawful authority. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Charter and the provisions of the general laws of the State of California, the provisions of this Charter shall control.

Article III – Form of Government

Section 100. Council-Manager Form of Government. The municipal government established by this Charter *shall continue to be the form of government known as the "Council-Manager" form of government, which means the City Council shall establish the policies of the City, and the City Manager shall carry out those policies.*

Article IV – Compensation and Expenses

Section 100. Councilmember Compensation. All of the members of the City Council, including the Mayor, shall continue to receive as compensation for their services a monthly salary in an amount established in accordance with, and limited by, the provisions of law applicable to the salaries of City Council members in general law cities as set forth in Section 36516 of the Government Code of the State of California or any successor provision thereto. The City shall not provide any additional compensation for attendance at other meetings of City or City-affiliated commissions, committees,

subcommittees, and boards of directors, including the Rancho Palos Verdes Redevelopment Agency and the Rancho Palos Verdes Improvement Authority.

Section 200. Councilmember Expenses. All of the members of the City Council, including the Mayor, shall continue to be entitled to reimbursement for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as stated in, and limited by, the provisions of law applicable to the reimbursement for expenses of City Council members in general law cities as set forth in Sections 36514.5, 53232.2 and 53232.3 of the Government Code of the State of California or any successor provisions thereto.

Section 300. Staff Compensation. The compensation provided to City staff shall continue to be approved in a transparent manner at duly noticed City Council meetings.

Article V – Gifts of Public Funds

Section 100. Gifts of Public Funds. The City shall comply with the laws of the State of California that are applicable to general law cities with respect to the prohibition against gifts of public funds.

Article VI – General Plan

Section 100. General Plan. The General Plan is the paramount City land use document. The City shall be governed by State law as it applies to general law cities with respect to the requirement that the zoning ordinance must be consistent with the General Plan.

Article VII – Interpretation

Section 100. Construction and Interpretation. The language contained in this Charter is intended to be permissive rather than exclusive or limiting and shall be liberally and broadly construed in favor of the exercise by the City of its power to govern with respect to any matter which is a municipal affair, *except as otherwise provided in Articles III, IV, V and VI of this Charter.*

Section 200. Severability. If any provision of this Charter should be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or otherwise unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

The electors of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, by a majority of the votes cast, adopted this Charter of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes at the special municipal election held on March 8, 2011. The results of such election were certified by the City Council of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes through adoption of its Resolution No. _____.