

INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS CODE ORDINANCE NO. 02-374

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE III, SECTION 2-111, OF THE CODE OF THE INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS ADJUSTING THE COMPENSATION OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

WHEREAS, the Incorporated County of Los Alamos ("County") is an incorporated county of the State of New Mexico as provided in Section 5, Article 10 of the New Mexico Constitution; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2024, N.M. Const. Art. X, § 1 was amended by the people of the State of New Mexico granting authority to the County Council to set annual salaries for County elected officials; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 27 of the New Mexico Constitution forbids any increase or decrease in an elected official's compensation during the elected official's term of office, and

WHEREAS, the amount of compensation currently paid to County Councilors was established in 2023 pursuant to Ordinance No. 02-349 and has not increased; and

WHEREAS, the cost of living has increased and continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, Council finds that the responsibilities and duties currently assigned to the County Councilors warrant an increase in the County Councilor's compensation.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS as follows:

Section 1. Section 2-111 of the Code is amended as follows:

Sec. 2-111. - County council.

A. The compensation paid to each member of the council shall be ~~[\$12,674.00]~~ \$37,000.00 per annum. ~~[The council member serving as chair shall be paid an additional stipend of \$3,170.00 per annum.]~~ Councilors shall also be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their actual duties as approved by the council or its chair.

B. The County Council shall review the compensation and salary provided to members of the County Council no later than December 30, 2029 and no later than December 30 every four years thereafter.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after publication of its notice of adoption however, no County Councilor shall receive any increase in compensation provided by this Ordinance during their current term of office per N.M. Const. Art. IV, § 27. This increase in compensation shall occur only at the beginning of the next term of office for the County Councilor.

Section 3. Severability. 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 4. Repealer. All ordinances or resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance or resolution, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.

ADOPTED this 6th day of January 2026.

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

Council Chair

ATTEST: (SEAL)

**Michael D. Redondo,
Los Alamos County Clerk**