



CITY OF LAS VEGAS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOME RULE DRAFT TO BE PRESENTED

Las Vegas, NM. Mayor Tony E. Marquez announced today that the Home Rule Charter Commission has completed its work on the first draft of a home rule charter, and it is now ready for review by the governing body.

The Home Rule Charter Commission will be presenting the draft Home Rule Charter to the Mayor and Council during the September 23, 2009 Council Meeting. A series of Public Hearings have already been held by the Home Rule Charter Commission to solicit public input into the draft.

“I am pleased with the work completed to date by our Charter Commission, and look forward to their presentation to the governing body. This is a significant milestone, and will give our Council the opportunity to ask questions and to express their views on the draft charter”, the Mayor said.

A home rule charter is significantly different from a general law city in that general law cities can only adopt policies and carry out responsibilities specifically authorized by state law. A home rule city on the other hand, can enact any policies and responsibilities so long as they are not specifically prohibited by state law.

The draft charter is subject to debate and amendment within the governing body. Once the draft is accepted by the governing body, it is then subject to the will of the people. The charter would be placed on the ballot for adoption at the next municipal election.

The Mayor invites the community to attend the public meetings and to become familiar with the contents of the draft. “We want our citizens to be involved, and be a part of this important process. We want them to be informed of the charter and how it will affect them. The wonderful thing about a democracy is that in the end, it is the citizens who decide the outcome”, the Mayor went on to say.

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