



Informal Report to Mayor and Council

Mayor and City Council Compensation
City Council Meeting Date: 09-28-2021

ISSUE

Brief the Mayor and City Council relative to Mayor and City Council compensation in Arlington and other cities.

DISCUSSION

At its meeting on September 7, 2021, the City Council requested that Staff prepare an informal staff report detailing compensation for the Mayor and City Council in Arlington and other cities which use the Council-Manager form of government, in response to a matter raised by Council member Woolridge.

Comparison Cities

<u>City</u>	<u>Population</u> (2019 estimate)	<u>Mayor Annual</u> <u>Salary</u>	<u>Council Annual</u> <u>Salary</u>
San Antonio	1,547,253	\$61,725	\$45,722
Dallas	1,343,573	\$80,000	\$60,000
Austin	978,908	\$97,656	\$83,158.40
Fort Worth	909,585	\$29,000	\$25,000
El Paso	681,728	\$78,750	\$52,500
Arlington	398,854	\$3,000	\$2,400
Corpus Christi	326,586	\$9,000	\$6,000
Plano	287,677	\$24,000	\$12,000
Laredo	262,491	\$49,800	\$30,200
Lubbock	258,862	\$900	\$300
Garland	239,928	\$6,900 + \$72 per Council meeting attended	\$3,456 + \$72 per Council meeting attended
Irving	239,798	\$14,400	\$10,800
Frisco	200,490	\$10,200	\$8,400
Amarillo	199,371	\$10 per regular meeting attended	\$10 per regular meeting attended
McKinney	199,177	\$1,200 + \$50 per Council meeting attended	\$50 per Council meeting attended
Grand Prairie	194,543	\$1,200	\$5 per Council meeting attended
Brownsville	182,781	\$300	\$300
Killeen	151,666	\$2,400	\$1,200
Midland	146,038	\$900	\$300
McAllen	143,268	\$600	\$5 per Council meeting attended
Denton	141,541	\$12,000	\$9,000
Mesquite	140,937	\$1,200	\$10 per Council meeting attended
Carrollton	139,248	\$4,500	\$2,400

Current Mayor and Council Salary Information

Article IV § 6 of the Arlington City Charter sets compensation for the Mayor and City Council:

Section 6. Compensation: Beginning October 1, 1980, and thereafter, the Mayor shall receive a compensation of \$250.00 per month, and each Council member shall receive a compensation of \$200.00 per month, and all appointive officers of the City Council, except where otherwise provided by law, shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the City Council. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the reimbursement of actual official City business expenses of the Mayor and City Council where same are provided in the annual City Budget. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, April 5, 1980)

Any change to the current Mayor and City Council compensation would require a Charter Amendment approved by Arlington voters.

Historical Election Information

The current compensation amounts were adopted by Charter Amendment on April 5, 1980.

On May 7, 2005, the City of Arlington held a Special Election with several proposed Charter Amendments, including a proposed increase in compensation for the Mayor and City Council. The proposed amendment relative to City Council compensation was not approved by Arlington voters:

Proposition No. 3

Amendment of Section 6 of Article IV of the City Charter to increase compensation for the Mayor to \$1,500 per month and for City Council Members to \$1,000 per month.

FOR: 5,089
AGAINST: 9,311

No additional Charter Amendments relative to Mayor and City Council compensation have been considered by Arlington voters since the May 2005 Special Election.

ACTION

Staff will proceed in accordance with the City Council's direction.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Attached: None
Under separate cover: None
Available in the City Secretary's Office: None

STAFF CONTACT(S)

Jay Warren
Director of Communication & Legislative Affairs
817-459-6412
Jay.Warren@arlingtontx.gov

Alex Busken
City Secretary
817-459-6186
Alex.Busken@arlingtontx.gov