

Chapter 2: Council—General Powers and Responsibilities

A. Council Functions

The Council is the legislative body of the City; its members are the community's decision makers. Power is centralized in the elected Council collectively, and not in individual members of the Council. The Council approves the budget and determines the public services to be provided and the taxes, fees and assessments to pay for these public services. It focuses on the community's goals, major projects and such long-term considerations as community growth, general plan and land use, development standards, capital improvements, financing and strategic planning. The Council appoints a professional City Administrator to carry out the administrative responsibilities and supervises the City Administrator's performance.

B. Mayor and Vice Mayor Functions

1. **Mayor:** The Mayor is to preside at all meetings of the Council and perform such other duties consistent with the office as may be imposed by the Council or by vote of the people. At Council meetings, the Mayor assists the Council in focusing on the agenda, discussions and deliberations. The Mayor does not possess any power of veto. As presiding officer of the Council, the Mayor is to faithfully communicate the will of the Council majority in matters of policy. The Mayor is also recognized as the official head of the City for all ceremonial purposes.
2. **Vice Mayor:** The Vice Mayor shall perform the duties of the Mayor during the Mayor's absence or disability. The Vice Mayor shall serve in this capacity at the pleasure of the Council.

The Mayor and Vice Mayor are appointed for a two (2) year term.

C. Appointment of City Administrator and City Attorney

The Council appoints two (2) positions within the City organization: City Administrator and City Attorney. Both positions serve at the will of the Council.

1. **City Administrator:** Is an employee of the City and has an employment agreement which specifies terms of employment including an annual evaluation by the Council. City Administrator shall be the administrative head of the City government under the direction of the City Council, except as otherwise provided in the A.M.C. He or she shall be responsible for the efficient administration of all the affairs of the City which are under the City Administrator's control. In addition to his general powers as administrative head, and not as a limitation thereon, it shall be the City Administrator's duty and the City Administrator shall have the powers listed in the A.M.C.¹
2. **City Attorney:** City Attorney services will be provided by contract. The City Attorney attends all Council Meetings as well as other meetings at the request of the Council as deemed necessary. The City Attorney is appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Council.

D. Role in Emergency

Chapter 2.12 of the Angeles Municipal Code governs the preparation, planning and protection of persons and property in the City in the event of an emergency or disaster. The City also has an *Emergency Operations Plan* that assists in governing emergency response.

Per AMC Section 2.12.030, the City's "Emergency Council" (~~aka Civil Defense and Disaster Council~~) consists of the following:

- The Mayor, who shall be chairman;
- The City Administrator as Director of Emergency Services, who shall be vice-chair;

- The Assistant Director of Emergency Services, appointed by the mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council who, under the supervision of the Director, shall develop emergency response and disaster plans of the City, ~~and other duties as assigned by the Director~~including Emergency Operations Plans, and Hazard Mitigation Plans, and organize the emergency management and response program of this city, and other duties as may be assigned by the director;
- Such deputy directors and chiefs of emergency services as are provided for in the City's Emergency Operations Plan; and
- Such representatives of civic, business, labor, veterans, professional, or other organizations having an official emergency responsibility as may be appointed by the mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council.ⁱⁱ

The Emergency Council shall be responsible for the development of the City emergency plan, which shall provide for the effective mobilization of the City's resources, both public and private, to meet any condition constituting a local emergency, state of emergency or state of war emergency, and shall provide for the organization, powers and duties, services and staff of the emergency organization. Such plan shall take effect upon adoption by resolution of the City Council.ⁱⁱⁱ The Council shall meet upon call of the Chairman, or in the Chair's absence, upon the call of the Vice Chairman [AMC 12.12.040(B)].

In the event of a local emergency or state emergency, the office of the Director of Emergency Services shall be created who shall appoint the Assistant Director of Emergency Services.^{iv} The Director of Emergency Services' power and responsibilities are outlined in the A.M.C. Section 2.12.050~~and~~, 2.12.060, and 2.12.065^v

Should the Council be unavailable during an emergency, state or federal law, as applicable, specifies a hierarchy of others who may serve in place of the Council

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