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## At Large | Incumbents retain 3 seats

### Peacock edges into final spot; Ramirez to stay on board of commissioners

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Incumbent City Council members Susan Burgess, Anthony Foxx and John Lassiter won the race to keep their at-large City Council seats, according to complete but unofficial election results.

Edwin Peacock III will take over the fourth open seat after squeaking past Mecklenburg County Commissioner Dan Ramirez by 303 votes, officials said.

"I don't know what to say. I'm out of breath," Peacock said. "I'm excited. It's just so close -- this is, is incredible. I'm so excited."

Peacock was one of the youngest political newcomers in the race. At 37, he is trying to follow his father, who once served in an at-large council seat.

Last night, Ed Peacock Jr. called his son from the Board of Elections office to give him the news.

Tuesday's election will not change the makeup of the council, which remains seven Democrats and four Republicans.

Burgess, 61, Charlotte's Democratic mayor pro-tem, was the only woman in the at-large race.

She was the highest vote-getter with 16 percent of the vote.

"I'm grateful to the good people of Charlotte for entrusting me with another term," Burgess said. "I'll work as hard as I can to represent them well."

Foxx, a Democrat, came in second with 15 percent of the vote and Lassiter, a Republican, came in third with 14 percent.

Lassiter, 53, has served on the City Council since 2003. He chairs the economic development committee and prides himself on forming public and private partnerships that have led to numerous projects.

"I'm very pleased with the support of the voters putting me back on council," Lassiter said Tuesday. "We have a lot of unfinished business."

Foxx, 36, was elected in 2005. For the past two years as a council member, he has worked to speed up the city's schedule for building roads and sidewalks, he said. Also concerned about crime, he was among the council members who voted last year for more police officers.

Ramirez, a Mecklenburg County commissioner, trailed in fifth place. He called Peacock shortly after 11 p.m. to concede.

"With 97 percent reporting, there was nothing else I could do," Ramirez said. "The show is over."

Ramirez, 60, was the first Latino elected to the county board. He lost his commission seat in 2004. Last year, he won it back by 300 votes. He will remain on the county commission.

He came in second among six candidates in September's Republican primary.

Democrat Jack Flynn, who ran unsuccessfully for state office in 2004, was in sixth place. He was followed by political newcomer David Romero, a Republican, and Democrat Raphael Basisa, who ran unsuccessfully for City Council once before.

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