

## History of Charter Amendments

The following list includes Charter Amendment ballot measures approved by voters and many Charter Amendment ballot measure that were not approved by voters.

Year	Ballot Letter	Issue(s)	Passed	Failed	Election Date/ Effective Date
1949		Original Charter establishing Council/Manager form of government	X		May 18, 1949
1953/ 1954		<u>Research into this amendment is underway</u>	X		<i>Election Date Pending/ March 31, 1954</i>
1954		“Seven Members” <u>Research into this amendment is underway</u>	X		Nov. 2, 1954/ Jan. 14, 1955  Election Results: <a href="#">ROV Nov. 2, 1954</a>
1957	1	Changed the number of Councilmembers from 5 to 7	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>
	2	Council compensation from \$50 to \$75 per month	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>
	3	Four votes needed for the adoption of ordinances, resolutions and orders for the payment of money.	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>
	4	Five votes needed for emergency ordinances	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>
	5	Ordinances annexing areas to the City shall become effective on adoption.	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>
	6	Appointment of the City Clerk and City Attorney and for their removal upon motion of the City Council.	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>

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	7	Four votes needed to adopt the annual budget.	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>
	8	No suit or claim for money or damages shall be brought against the City until a verified claim for the same has been presented to the Director of Finance	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>
	9	Created "Departmental Trust Fund"	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>
	10	Repealed City Court	X		April 9, 1957/ May 20, 1957  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 2340-57</a>
1966	F	Increased salary for Councilmembers to \$200 per month and the Mayor to \$300 per Month	X		Nov. 8, 1966/ Jan. 23, 1967  Election Results: <a href="#">ROV Nov. 8, 1966</a>
1968	B	Amended to provide that the City exercise proprietary powers and powers granted to General Law Cities...; require official bonds of persons controlling public funds...; require bidding on public works contracts in excess of amount specified in Government Code and excluding work: performed by a public utility...	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
	C	Designated each Council seat as a separate elective office; and holding municipal elections in same manner as General Law Cities...	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
	D	Require the City Manager to reside in Sunnyvale and allow removal of the City Manager without a public hearing.	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>

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	E	Provides that the Council deal with employees under the City Manager's authority through the City Manger...	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
	F	Eliminated several Charter officers, added City Council authority to appoint officers upon City Manager's recommendation...	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
	G	Council may appoint Assistant or Deputy City Attorney, removed Council authority to appoint a City Clerk...	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
	H	Redefined the Unclassified Service by eliminating non.-existent positions and City Clerk and by adding any Assistant or Deputy City Attorney and deleting time limit for temporary or special purpose employees...	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
	I	Require only public meetings for boards and commissions along with other board and commission related amendments.	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
	J	Require an independent auditor, remove several sections.	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
	K	Provided authority to adopt by ordinance a claims against the City process.	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
	L	Add requirement for a franchise to furnish public utility services or public streets for such public utility services.	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>

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	M	Designate the governing board of the school district as a City Board of Education.	X		June 4, 1968/ July 8, 1968  Election Results <a href="#">ROV June 4, 1968</a>
1975	A	Consolidated City Council and School Board elections	X		Nov. 4, 1975/ Dec. 31, 1975  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 345-75</a>
	B	Modify tax rate for the purpose of acquiring open space lands within the City of Sunnyvale		X	Nov. 4, 1975/ Dec. 31, 1975  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 345-75</a>
	C	Modify tax rate to establish and operate an emergency medical treatment system		X	Nov. 4, 1975/ Dec. 31, 1975  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 345-75</a>
	D	Amend City Councilmembers' term limit, require references to gender to appear in both masculine and feminine forms, along with other changes.		X	Nov. 4, 1975/ Dec. 31, 1975  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 345-75</a>
1976	A	Amended to rearrange the Sections of Articles VI, VII and VIII, to repeal Article XVII, to conform existing Sections 701 and 708 to recent court decisions and laws applicable to charter cities, and to clarify the wording of existing Sections 816 and 1318?"	X		Nov. 2, 1976/ Dec. 21, 1976  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 351-76</a>
	B	Shall Section 702 of the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale be amended to increase the monthly salary of Councilmembers from \$200 to \$300 and of the Mayor from \$300 to \$400 and to increase the reduction in salary for failure to attend a meeting or study session from \$25 to \$35?"		X	Nov. 2, 1976/ Dec. 21, 1976  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 351-76</a>

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	C	Technical changes regarding Councilmanic interference	X		Nov. 2, 1976/ Dec. 21, 1976  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 351-76</a>
	D	Sections 814, 1107 and 1801 of the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale amended to provide that the penalty for committing a misdemeanor shall be the same as provided under general law, and to add infraction to Section 814 as a category of offense for violation of an ordinance?"	X		Nov. 2, 1976/ Dec. 21, 1976  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 351-76</a>
	E	Shall Section 1002 of the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale be amended to remove the limitation on the number of terms that a board or commission member may serve?		X	Nov. 2, 1976/ Dec. 21, 1976  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 351-76</a>
	F	Shall Section 700 of the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale be amended to remove the limitation on the number of successive terms that Councilmembers may serve?		X	Nov. 2, 1976/ Dec. 21, 1976  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 351-76</a>
<b>1982</b>	H	Changed requirements for membership to Boards and Commissions	X		Nov. 2, 1982/ Dec. 23, 1982  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 297-82</a>
	I	Changed Mayor Pro Tem to Vice Mayor	X		Nov. 2, 1982/ Dec. 23, 1982  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 297-82</a>
	J	Amended contract provisions for Public Works and repealed Water Revenue Fund	X		Nov. 2, 1982/ Dec. 23, 1982  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 297-82</a>
	K	Council Salary Increase		X	Nov. 2, 1982/ Dec. 23, 1982  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 297-82</a>

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	L	Added Heritage Preservation Commission	X		Nov. 2, 1982/ Dec. 23, 1982  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 297-82</a>
	M	Modified Tax Limit Consistent with Prop. 13	X		Nov. 2, 1982/ Dec. 23, 1982  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 297-82</a>
	N	Added section regarding Campaign Disclosure	X		Nov. 2, 1982/ Dec. 23, 1982  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 297-82</a>
	O	Handgun Control		X	Nov. 2, 1982/ Dec. 23, 1982  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 297-82</a>
1985	A	Increased pay for City Councilmembers to \$600/month and Mayor to \$800/month, with annual cost of living increases commensurate with State Law for General Law cities	X		March 5, 1985/ March 15, 1985  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 123-85</a>
1987	F	Amended Mayor's term to serve for two years	X		Nov. 3, 1987/ Dec. 21, 1987  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 207-87</a>
1988	H	Amended terms of Planning Commissioners, Personnel Board and Board of Building Code Appeals to serve two consecutive terms	X		Nov. 8, 1988/ May 1, 1989  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 222-88</a>
1991	H	Shall the current city of Sunnyvale Charter language providing that the city council selects the Mayor by resolution requiring the affirmative votes of at least four members of the City Council, be retained, as recommended by the Charter Review Committee?	X		Nov. 5, 1991/ Jan. 17, 1992  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 202-91</a>

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	I	Shall section 601 of the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale be amended to require an individual who has served in elective office for two successive four-year terms to wait at least four years before being eligible to serve again in elective office?	X		Nov. 5, 1991/ Jan. 17, 1992  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 202-91</a>
	J	Shall section 603 of the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale be amended to provide that Councilmembers are entitled to four personal leave days per year, that the Council has the authority to excuse absences from meetings and that for an absence from a Council meeting for other than for personal leave, or due to official duty or one which is excused by the Council, the penalty is 20% of the month's salary, which at the time of this amendment is equivalent to a penalty of \$160.00?	X		Nov. 5, 1991/ Jan. 17, 1992  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 202-91</a>
	K	Shall section 604 of the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale be amended to provide that vacancies on the City Council shall be officially declared as such within thirty days of the commencement of the vacancy, that vacancies created by the involuntary removal of a Councilmember may be filled by appointment, and that no election shall be held the day before, day of, or day after a state holiday?	X		Nov. 5, 1991/ Jan. 17, 1992  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 202-91</a>
	L	Shall the Charter of the city of Sunnyvale be revised to provide that, commencing June 1992, the Mayor of Sunnyvale shall be elected by a vote of the people instead of appointed by the City Council for a separate four year term with a two successive term limitation, and, further, that if a Councilmember or the Mayor does not attend all official meetings held during a given month, that his/her salary for the month shall be reduced by \$150.00 for each absence unless, as currently set forth in the City Charter, the absence is due to official duty?		X	Nov. 5, 1991/ Jan. 17, 1992  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 202-91</a>

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	M	Shall Sections 601 and 1400 of the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale be amended to provide that in order to be elected to the office of Mayor, an individual would have to receive a majority of all votes cast rather than a plurality, and that in the event no individual received a majority of all votes cast, a runoff election would be held between the two individuals who received the highest number of votes?"	X		Nov. 5, 1991/ Jan. 17, 1992  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 202-91</a>
1993	M	Shall section 1007 of the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale concerning Personnel Board eligibility requirements be amended so that former city employees are precluded from serving on the Personnel Board?"	X		Nov. 2, 1993/ Dec. 23, 1993  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 201-93</a>
	N	Shall an initiative ordinance be adopted which establishes a Mobilehome Park Rental Board, sets base rents for all mobilehome park spaces and enacts a mobilehome rent regulation program?		X	Nov. 2, 1993/ Dec. 23, 1993  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 201-93</a>
1995	A	Amended Sections 302,304 and 1003 containing outdated material to be deleted in their entirety and Sections 303,1007, 1013 & 1015 to delete only outdated material	X		Nov. 7, 1995/ Nov. 30, 1995  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 216-95</a>
	B	Amended to delete outdated material, to clarify when election results are certified and to transfer qualification for office language from Section 601 to 602	X		Nov. 7, 1995/ Nov. 30, 1995  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 216-95</a>
	C	Amended to delete outdated material, to clarify when the selection of mayor and vice mayor shall occur and to change the method of appointment and removal of the mayor from a resolution to a motion process	X		Nov. 7, 1995/ Nov. 30, 1995  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 216-95</a>
	D	Amended term of Mayor from two-year term to one year	X		Nov. 7, 1995/ Nov. 30, 1995  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 216-95</a>



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	E	Amended to streamline public notice, resolution and ordinance procedures and bring them into conformance with State law	X		Nov. 7, 1995/ Nov. 30, 1995  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 216-95</a>
	F	Amended to provide for employment contracts for the City Manager and City Attorney, to eliminate the ordinance requirement for departmental reorganization and to transfer the responsibility for legal business from the City Council to the City Attorney	X		Nov. 7, 1995/ Nov. 30, 1995  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 216-95</a>
	G	Amended to specify which boards and commissions are established by charter, and to authorize the creation of additional boards and commissions by resolution as well as by ordinance, and to include only the subject of board and commission appointments and qualifications, transferring the provisions concerning term lengths to new Section 1003	X		Nov. 7, 1995/ Nov. 30, 1995  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 216-95</a>
	H	Amended to clarify procedures related to the processing of franchises?	X		Nov. 7, 1995/ Nov. 30, 1995  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 216-95</a>
2005	F	Amended to standardize term limits for all city boards and commissions to two consecutive four-year terms and eliminate the two-year waiting period before a board or commission member may apply to serve on another board or commission?	X		Nov. 8, 2005/ Dec. 14, 2005  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 197-05</a>
	G	Shall the Charter of the City of Sunnyvale be amended to conform with state law by eliminating the requirement that the City Manager shall reside in the City of Sunnyvale?		X	Nov. 8, 2005/ Dec. 14, 2005  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 197-05</a>
	H	Amended to include the term "heritage resource" in its list of topics reviewed by the Sunnyvale Heritage Preservation Commission, consistent with existing policy.	X		Nov. 8, 2005/ Dec. 14, 2005  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 197-05</a>

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2007	C	Section 602 amended to limit a Councilmember to serving eight years in any twelve-year period, not including appointment to an unexpired term of less than two years?	X		Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>
	D	Sections 1002 and 1003 amended to clarify that a board or commission member can serve two terms on the same board or commission without a break, can serve on a different board or commission prior to expiration of his/her term with Council approval, and to clarify members of all boards and commissions may serve two successive terms?	X		Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>
	E	Section 1007 amended to add a provision that if the two employee-nominated members of the Personnel Board are not nominated and elected within six months of a vacancy then the City Council may fill the vacancies by direct appointment and delete the prohibition against officers in any local, state or national partisan political organization from serving on the Personnel Board?	X		Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>
	F	Sections 802, 1012 and 1014 amended to add new language that provides for budget review and recommendations by all boards and commissions and to delete the budget review provisions limited to only the Library Board and Parks and Recreation Commission?	X		Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>
	G	Shall Charter Section 603 be amended to allow the City Council to permit, by resolution, additional excused leave beyond the four personal leave days currently permitted, and to determine whether any additional excused leave days will be paid or unpaid leave?		X	Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>
	H	Sections 605 and 606 amended to select the mayor and vice mayor at the first regular meeting in January and to change the term of the mayor from one year to two years?	X		Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>

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	I	Section 800 amended to add language that strongly encourages the City Manager to reside in the City of Sunnyvale and to remove the City Manager residency requirement that is in conflict with the State Constitution?	X		Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>
	J	Sections 1302 and 1305 amended to add language that requires the annual submission of a ten-year balanced budget that includes level of service information, historical financial trend data, and charts for ease of understanding the budget and provides that approved appropriations for capital improvement projects will not lapse at the end of the fiscal year, unless completed, closed out or Council takes action to modify?	X		Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>
	K	Sections 601, 610, 612, 613, 703 and 708 amended to delete outdated material, to provide for certification of election results at the first meeting in January, to reflect current practice of study sessions and closed sessions in locations other than Council Chambers, to certify election returns, to provide for sanctions for disorderly conduct, to clarify the City Clerk reports to the City Manager, and to allow for publication on the Internet?	X		Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>
	L	Sections 803, 804, 806, 903, 908 and 1309 amended to delete outdated material, clarify that a City Manager pro tem is appointed for an absence of more than two weeks, that the City Manager and City Attorney can be removed without cause, that the City Manager appoints the City Clerk, require City Attorney approval for outside counsel, and specify that the lowest bidder for public works contracts must be responsive and responsible?	X		Nov. 6, 2007/ Nov. 28, 2007  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 307-07</a>
2011	A	Amendment to change the current Council-appointed Mayor to a directly-elected Mayor for a 4-year term, to provide an 8-year lifetime term limit for a directly-elected Mayor, and to provide that service as Mayor is not counted toward Council term limits and a person can serve a combined total of 16 years as Mayor and Council member in a twenty-year period?		X	Nov. 8, 2011/ Feb. 15, 2012  <a href="#">Resolution No. 515-12</a>

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	B	Section 603 amended to delete the current automatic 5% annual increase in Council compensation, to set the 2012 Council compensation at \$2,088.64 per month and Mayor compensation at \$2,784.86 per month, and to provide for annual cost of living adjustments tied to the Consumer Price Index not to exceed 5% or result in a decrease?	X		Nov. 8, 2011/ Feb. 15, 2012  <a href="#">Resolution No. 515-12</a>
2013	A	Changed the City's general municipal elections from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years with the next general municipal election scheduled for 2016.	X		Nov. 5, 2013/ Dec. 16, 2013  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 621-13</a>
2018	L	Section 604 amended to allow the City Council to decide whether to fill a City Council vacancy by calling a special election, or by making an appointment, with the person appointed to fill the vacancy holding the office until a successor is elected at the next regularly scheduled municipal or statewide election that can be consolidated?	X		Nov. 6, 2018/ Dec. 21, 2018  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 918-18</a>
2020	B	Article VI amended to establish "by-district" elections for six Council members required to be residents of a district and elected only by the voters of that district, and one Mayor directly elected by all City voters; changed term limits to permit service on the Council for three consecutive terms but only two as Council member or Mayor; and made other conforming amendments.	X		March 3, 2020/ May 7, 2020  Election Results: <a href="#">Resolution No. 984-20</a>