

Charter Review Committee Recommendations for Further Study

Gustav Larsson, CRC Chair June 3, 2025



Agenda

Charter Review Committee's Progress To Date

Rankings of Potential Charter Amendments

Considerations

Request for Council Direction – Potential Amendments to Study



CRC Progress to Date

CRC Progress to Date – 5 Meetings

Review City Charter

Identify Topics

Subcommittee Research

Priority Ranking

- 2 meetings
- Reviewed each section
- Valuable input from public and staff
- Topics from City Council, staff, CRC
- 3 subcommittees for in-depth research
- Detailed reports to CRC

- Ranked 12 topics
- Asking Council to "draw the line"



Rankings of Potential Charter Amendments

Rankings – Highest Priority

- 1. Alternative Project Delivery Methods for Public Works
 - Combining design & build saves time and money broad support
- 2. City Council Salaries and Compensation
 - Encourage high-quality candidates for increasingly complex decisions
- 3. Redistricting Commission Process
 - Update process based on 2020 redistricting experience
- 4. Remove Gender-Specific Language
 - Remove personal pronouns to increase clarity and precision

Rankings – Mid Priority

- 5. Full-Time Mayor Role
 - Suggest clarifying Mayor's responsibilities and expectations
- 6. Council Vacancy and Appointment Rules
 - Adjust timing of election to fill vacancy increased voter turnout
- 7. City Council Meeting Frequency
- City Manager Settlement Authority
 - Consider Charter language that references dollar limit in ordinance

Rankings – Lowest Priority

9. Publishing Legal Notices

Modernize print media requirements, but could address other ways

10. Alternative Voting Systems

Controversial, suggest revisiting after future County decision

11. Petty Cash and Warrants

Outdated but minimal impact on day-to-day operations

12. Merit Principle Language

Outdated language, but could address through policies



Considerations

Considerations

- Focus on 4-5 amendments for further study
 - Tight timeline to finish by end of 2025
 - Thorough research by Committee and staff
 - Carefully evaluate options and reach consensus
 - Public outreach and polling
 - Finalize amendment language
- Alternatives for deferred items: study issue, ordinance/policy, or future topic-specific CRC



Request for Council Direction — Potential Charter Amendments for Further Study

Request for Council Direction

- Does Council see opportunities to combine items?
- Which 4-5 items should CRC study further and develop into potential ballot measures?