



Sunnyvale

# Discussion and Direction Regarding Creating a Charter Review Committee

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City Council  
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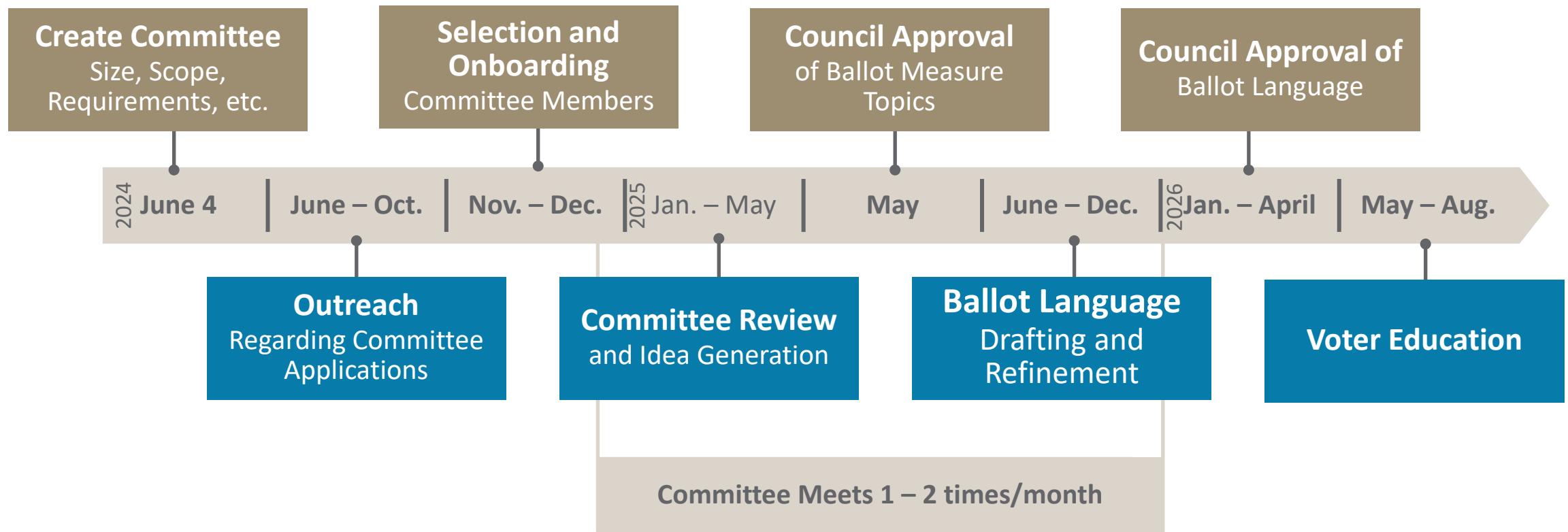


# Background

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- On Nov. 28, 2023, Colleagues Memo. proposed nine potential charter amendments.
- Memo. proposed a Charter Review Committee to review the Charter and propose additional amendments.
- On Jan. 30, Council directed to:
  - ◆ Place three topics on the Nov. 2024 ballot;
  - ◆ Update one Council Policy; and
  - ◆ Return with steps to create a Charter Review Committee.

# Charter Review Committee Project Timeline



# Recent Charter Review Committee Efforts

Year(s)	Scope of Review	Timeline (inception-election)	Num. of Mtgs.	Committee Selection Process	Election Date	Election Outcome
2020	1 item from Council - district elections*	18 months	5	Open applications	Mar 2020	1 measure passed
2017-2018	1 item from Council – filling vacancies	12-18 months	8	Open applications	Nov 2018	1 measure passed
2010-2011	2 items from Council – directly elected Mayor, Council compensation	12-18 months	8	Open applications	Nov 2011	1 of 2 measures passed
2006-2007	10 items -7 from Council, some from Committee	18 months	12	Appointed by Council	Nov 2007	9 of 10 measures passed

# Charter Review Committee Decision Points

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- **SIZE**

How many members should be on the charter review committee?

- **SELECTION PROCESS**

How should members be selected?

- **ELIGIBILITY & MEMBERSHIP**

Should there be specific qualifications for membership?

- **RESTRICTIONS**

Should there be restrictions on activity during and post service?

- **SCOPE & TIMELINE**

# Charter Review Committee Decision Points

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## Size and Selection Process

### Selection Process

- Application similar to 2018 Application?
- Interview format similar to Board/Commission interviews?
- Other selection process?
  - ◆ Direct appointment by individual Councilmembers?

### Size

- 7 – 15 members
  - ◆ Staff suggests 7 members
- Alternates
  - ◆ Staff suggests 0, 2 or 4 alternates
- Role of Alternates (*see next slide*)

# Charter Review Committee Decision Points

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## Role of Alternates

### Participation / Voting

- Do alternates participate similar to the public unless serving in-place of an absent member?
- Do alternates participate in deliberations regardless of whether they are filling in for an absent member or not?

### Selecting an Alternate

- In the case of an absent member, which alternate fills in?
  - ◆ Is there a ranked order for alternates to fill in?
  - ◆ Are alternates assigned to fill in for specific members?

# Charter Review Committee Decision Points

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## Eligibility & Membership and Restrictions

### Eligibility & Membership

- Sunnyvale residency?
  - ◆ Any exceptions?
- Voter registration?
  - ◆ Any exceptions?
- Minimum age?
  - ◆ Any exceptions?

### Restrictions

- Past or future Council service?
- Past or future Board/  
Commission service?
- Involvement with Sunnyvale  
campaign committees?
- Similar to Redistricting  
Commission?

# Charter Review Committee Decision Points

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## Scope of Review & Timeline

### Scope of Review

#### 5 Colleagues' Memo Items:

- Council vacancy appt timeline
- Role of the mayor (full-time?)
- Council salary and compensation
- Evaluating an alternative voting system
- Rules for empaneling Redistricting Commissions

### Scope of Review *Cont.*

- Committee-Recommended Items
- Staff-Recommended Items

### Timeline

- Overall Process:  
June 2024 – Nov. 2026
- Committee Meetings:  
Dec. 2024 – Dec. 2025

# Alternatives

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1. Determine the number of Charter Committee members and adopt a Resolution (Attachment 1 to the report) establishing the Charter Review Committee.
2. Provide direction to staff on (a) Committee formation, including membership requirements, eligibility, and the selection process for Committee membership, (b) scope of the committee, and (c) general timeline for the Committee's work.
3. Other direction as provided by Council.

## Staff Recommendation

Staff makes no recommendation. This report is developed to facilitate a conversation for the public hearing and action by the City Council related to the formation of a Charter Review Committee