

2024 Charter Amendments

City Council Meeting – May 2, 2024

Wajiha Rizvi, Assistant City Attorney, Open Government & Ethics



Discussion Topics:

- Timeline
- Policies that Don't Require Charter Revision
- Recommendations that Require Charter Revision
- Bundling Minor Charter Revisions
- Next Steps



Timeline

- **May 2 & 30**: Council discussion and possible action on which recommendations to place on ballot
- **June**: Law Dept drafts ballot language and ordinance associated with ordering a Special Charter Election
- **July 18**: Proposed action item for Council to order election. Latest scheduled Council meetings to order election is August 16 and deadline to order election August 19.
- **November 5**: Election Day



Policies That Do Not Require Charter Revisions

- **CRC Recommendation 1:** Approve a resolution directing the city clerk to implement an alphabetic rotation for proposition labeling.
- **CRC Recommendation 3:** Set out a notice of intent and signature validity framework for petitions via ordinance.



Policies That Do Not Require Charter Revisions

- **CRC Recommendation 5:** Enact an ordinance on conflicting ballot initiatives: if two or more proposed ordinances or resolutions approved at the same election are inconsistent, the one receiving the highest number of votes shall prevail.
- **CRC Recommendation 6:** Enact an ordinance setting disclosure & contribution limits for recall petitions.



Recommendations Requiring Charter Revisions

- **CRC Recommendation 2:** 3.5% Signature Threshold for Petitions
- **CRC Recommendation 4:** Citizen-initiated Petitions on Municipal General Election Dates
- **CRC Recommendation 8:** Ratification of City Attorney Appointment
- Staff Charter Redlines



Bundling Charter Changes

- Charter amendments must contain one subject.
- Ballot must be prepared so that a voter can approve or disapprove any one or more amendments without having to approve or disapprove of all the amendments.
- Minor changes such as changes to grammar and removing obsolete charter language no longer valid under current law can be bundled. Minor changes are highlighted in yellow in the Charter redline.



Next Steps

- Council decides whether any appropriate policy outcomes should be implemented via ordinance or resolution.
- Council decides which charter changes to proceed with placing on the ballot for a Special Charter Election for November 2024.



Questions?

