



City Charter Amendments

City Charter Subcommittee:
Mayor Pro Tempore Orozco
Council Member Salcido
Council Member Dutra

February 13, 2024

Charter Amendment Requirements

Government Code 34458 Requires:

- 3 Public Hearings
- First two hearing must be 30 days apart and one must be after business hours
- Third Hearing must be advertised 21 days prior to meeting

Timeline

In order to place a measure on the ballot for the November 2024 Election, Council must complete the Charter Amendment Process by August 2024. Staff recommends completion of the process by July 2024 to provide adequate time for drafting of ballot language and time to submit the measure to the County.

PROPOSED TIMELINE		
February 13, 2024	First Public Hearing	1 st public hearing to consider amendments
March 26, 2024	Second Public Hearing (at least 30 days from 1 st hearing)	2 nd public hearing to consider amendments
April 23, 2024	Public Meeting	Council votes on provides direction to staff regarding preparation of question to the voters

City Charter Review Subcommittee

In 2023, then Mayor Montesino appointed a subcommittee to review the City Charter and make recommendations to Council. Council is tasked with reviewing recommendations and directing staff on how to proceed.

The Committee Members are as follows:

- District 3 – Mayor Pro Tempore Orozco
- District 4 – Council Member Salcido
- District 6 – Council Member Dutra

Proposed Changes

The Committee reviewed the entire Charter and made recommendations based on the need to modernize City practices and create opportunities for more civic engagement. The Committee focused on creating inclusion, removing gender specific language, improving options for public participation, and addressing compensation challenges for City Council and City Commissions.

Proposed Changes

Charter Section	Summary of Changes
Section 405 - Compensation	Allow Council to consider obtaining fringe benefits in addition to increasing salary as permitted by law
Section 408 – Meetings of the Council	Remove requirement to hold 1 regular meeting each month and instead only require a meeting that could be a special or emergency meeting
Section 409 – Participation	Remove registered voter status requirement for advisory commissions and committees
Section 502 - Salary	Mayor to receive 25% more in salary than remainder of Council
Section 607 – Publication of Ordinances	Update language to allow publication on any newspaper or as permitted by State Law

Proposed Changes Continued

Charter Section	Summary of Changes
Section 700 – City Manager	Update qualification requirements
Section 703 – City Manager Powers and Duties	Include requirement to meet with Council Members and assign role of City Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Director
Section 804 – City Attorney Powers and Duties	Clarify City's abilities to hire additional attorneys
Section 900 – Commissions	Allow residents to be appointed to Commissions but continue requiring planning commissioners to be registered voters. Change Library Board to Commission.
Section 905 – Planning Commission Compensation	Grant Council the ability to consider compensation for Planning Commissioners
Section 910 – Board of Library Trustees	Convert Library Board into a Commission

Proposed Changes Continued

Charter Section	Summary of Changes
Section 1001 – Competitive and General Service	Clarify General Service staff positions
Section 1002 – Personnel Rules and Regulations	Deleted due to lack of relevance
Section 1004 – Suspension, Demotion, and Dismissal	Add reference to City Rules and Regulations
Section 1106 – Tax Levy	Prop 13 overrides this section, recommending removal
Section 1113 – Funds: Capital Outlays Fund	Removes non-enforceable language
Section 1118 – Contracts for Official Advertising	Remove entire section as it is unnecessary and impractical

Proposed Changes Continued

Charter Section	Summary of Changes
Section 1122 – Tax Limits	Remove Section 1122 (a) and Section 1122(b)(1) as not authorized post Proposition 13
Section 1202 – Franchise Terms, Condition, and Procedures	Remove requirement to establish general terms and conditions for franchises through ordinance and instead consider franchises individually
Section 1504 – Violations	Replace “shall” with “may” to allow flexibility in imposing violations
Section 1506 – Publicity of Records	Include language to refer to State policy regarding public records requests

Recommendation:

Motion Directing staff to Set the Next Public Hearing for March 26, 2024

Questions?