

## Charter Review Commission Proposed Work Plan 2017-2018

The Charter Review Commission is established under Chapter 2.29 of the Municipal Code. Its purpose is to review and recommend Charter changes to the City Council and City Manager.

### I. Recent Work

#### A. Amendments Approved by Voters and Enacted:

- November 2012 - Charter Amendment to Article III, regarding Council Districts and establishing the powers and duties of the Districting Commission
- November 2014 – Charter Amendments to Sections 1009 and 1010 – updating Contracting by Public Works

#### B. Draft Amendments Prepared But Not Enacted (“On the Shelf” for Future Consideration):

- City Attorney Qualifications, Powers and Duties (Section 503)
  - Require the City Attorney to be a resident of Chula Vista (503(new d))
  - Clarify and update powers and duties of City Attorney (503(b))
  - Allow Council flexibility in setting the City Attorney salary (503(c))
  - Increase term limits of City Attorney from two to three
  - Modify the role of the Legislative Counsel (503.1)
- Council Members Eligibility and Terms (Section 300)
  - Delete language that has become superfluous/outdated, since implementation of District elections (300.A.; 300.E.)
  - Change June Election to “Primary,” and November to “General” (replacing current “Regular” and “Special” language)
  - Prohibit write-in candidates in the General election, unless only one qualified candidate (300.A.3.)
  - Revise when oath of office will be administered to allow time for certification of results (300.B.)
  - Clarify language so that one running for office after one year “sit-out” period has elapsed, may start soliciting campaign contributions at same time as other candidates (300.C.)
  - Clarify what happens in event of death of candidate (300.G.)
- City Council Vacancies (Section 303)
  - Further define what constitutes a Vacancy (303.A.)
  - Delete “Anticipated Vacancies” Section (303.B.)
  - Revise Process for Filling Vacancies [(303.C. (new B.)]
  - Provide for Vote-By-Mail Balloting for unconsolidated special elections (new 303.B.6.)

### II. Proposed Future Work

The Commission provides the following as our intended work plan for this year. We welcome suggestions from the Council and desire to know its priorities.

#### A. Consideration of and Preparation of Potential Additional Charter Amendments:

- Continue a summary review of the Charter to identify potential amendments for recommendation to the City Council in order to update and improve the Charter. This

will be done in conjunction with City staff based upon input from City staff, the Commission, the Council and the public

- Improve communication with the public and gather public input on potential revisions
- Potential New Amendments per Commission
  - Potential amendment suspending elected officials for certain events such as felony indictment
- Potential New Amendments Per City Staff Input
  - City Council Meetings, and Ordinances and Resolutions (306, 308, and 311): Revise to update consistent with Current City practices and to remove requirement to read titles during adoption of Consent Calendar
  - Publication of Notices and Ordinances (312, and 313): Revise to allow for publication on internet, rather than newspaper
  - Articles IV, V, and I: Update to reflect current organizational structure and positions, and revise oath language to conform to current legal requirements
  - Article X: Revise to clarify budget adoption process, update to be consistent with current legal requirements and processes
  - Revise other Articles as needed to change June Election to “Primary,” and November to “General”

#### B. Increased Public Outreach

- Work with City staff to distribute more Commission-related information to City residents and to broaden its dissemination.
- Take steps to solicit more public input regarding potential amendments to the City’s Charter, including holding Commission meetings in various venues throughout the City.