

RESOLUTION NO.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

1. The Council establishes a 2018 Charter Review Commission to advise the Council on revisions which may be necessary or desirable to align the City Charter with changes to municipal ordinances, and to make recommendations to the Council to improve and enhance transparency and the general functions of city government.
2. The Commission shall be composed of eleven members. Council members and the Mayor shall have one nomination each for approval by the Council, with Commission members selecting a Chair and Vice Chair. All Commission members shall be appointed by the Council no later than June 22, 2017.
3. Members nominated to the Commission shall be representative of the community and shall reside within the city.
4. A quorum for the conduct of business is a majority of Commission members. No vacancy in the membership of the Commission shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all of the rights and perform all of the duties of the Commission.
5. Any member of the Commission may be removed by the Council for malfeasance, failure to attend three or more consecutive meetings for any reason whatsoever, or willful neglect of duty.

6. Commission members shall receive no compensation for the performance of their duties as members. No Commission member shall receive any personal gain from serving on the Commission.
7. The Commission shall begin its work as soon as practicable after all members are appointed, with the goal of recommending amendments within 200 days for consideration by the Council in order to ensure that proposed amendments can be placed on the November 2018 ballot in a timely manner.
8. The Commission shall review best practices, shall seek citizen input, shall consult with City boards and commissions, and shall review the Charter in order to formulate recommendations for amendment, revision, or repeal of provisions of the Charter (the Recommendation Report) to the Council.
9. The Commission shall outline in the Recommendation Report the following:
 - a. The substance of any proposed amendments, revisions, or repeals to the Charter (the Proposals);
 - b. The policy reasons for each Proposal;
 - c. Estimated fiscal budgetary impacts for each Proposal;
 - d. Impacts of each Proposal on existing City laws, rules, practices, and procedures;
 - e. Proposed ballot language for each Proposal.
10. The Commission shall consider the following areas:

- a. Campaign finance, including consideration of contribution and expenditure limits;
 - b. City boards and commissions, including terms of Planning Commission members;
 - c. Requirements for citizen-initiated petitions, including requirements for percentages and numbers of valid signatures on various types of petitions (initiative, referendum, and recall of a mayor or a council member from a specific geographic district), and reporting and residency requirements for citizen-initiated petitions;
 - d. Appointment of the City Attorney by the City Council; and
 - e. Correction of clerical matters, routine harmonizing of provisions, and clarification of verbiage as recommended by the City Clerk and the City Attorney.
11. The scope of the Commission's work may be expanded by the Council via resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Commission shall consider the recommendations of the Ethics Review Commission on all matters relating to campaign finance, ethics, and financial disclosure.

The Commission shall consider the recommendations of City boards and commissions.

The Commission shall conduct public hearings to encourage and solicit broad-based citizen input from the community at large for consideration of each Proposal prior to the submission of the Recommendation Report to the Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Council directs the interim city manager to provide the necessary resources to support the efforts of the Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Commission may receive stakeholder input on other matters related to the City Charter and may include in their Recommendation Report ideas and comments on such matters.

ADOPTED: _____, 2017

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk