

2024 Charter Review Commission Meeting, 1/18/24
Item 5 - Summary of Recall Work Group Recommendations

	Recall of Council Member	Recall of Mayor
Notice of Intent		
Presented and signed by 5 qualified voters in Austin, providing sufficient information to confirm their voter status	Residents of relevant council district	✓
Phone number and email address to provide to the public	✓	✓
Indicate petition type	✓	✓
Proposed ordinance language or ballot language	✓	✓
Short (1 sentence) summary of the intended purpose	N/A	N/A
Campaign finance filer ID	✓	✓
Date of election that petition initiators intend to get item on the ballot	N/A	N/A
Sworn statement attesting to validity of information on Notice of Intent	✓	✓
Clerk indicates date received	✓	✓
Clerk indicates date that voter status of 5 presenters was verified by Clerk's office	✓	✓
Clerk indicates a final date by which sufficient valid signatures must be received in order to appear on the ballot for the intended election	N/A	N/A
Clerk indicates a safe harbor date by which signatures should be presented to give Clerk's office enough time to verify signatures	N/A	N/A
Clerk assigns short identifier or number for Notice of Intent	✓	✓
Clerk posts Notice of Intent on website	✓	✓
Signatures are valid for 90 days after date Notice of Intent was accepted by Clerk + 90 day extension available	✓	✓
Standardized Petition Forms		
Space to indicate type of petition	✓	✓
Contact information provided on Notice of Intent	✓	✓
Contact information for Clerk's office	✓	✓
URL on COA website where Notices of Intent are posted	✓	✓
QR code directing to COA website where Notices of Intent are posted	✓	✓
Identifier assigned to Notice of Intent	✓	✓
Short (1 sentence) summary of the intended purpose	✓	✓
Space for valid signatures, as already defined in Charter	✓	✓
Available in Spanish and English by default	✓	✓
Available in other common languages upon request	✓	✓
Signatures		
Number of valid signatures required	TBD	10% of qualified voters citywide
Distribution of signatures	Qualified voters of relevant council district	At least 5% of total number of signatures collected must come from each council district

Campaign Finance		
File campaign treasurer appointment	✓	✓
Adherence to limits on campaign contributions and expenditures (City Charter, Art. III, Sec. 8)	✓	✓
Recall Election (City Charter Art. IV § 7)		
Clerk certifies petition within 20 days of receipt of signatures	Unchanged	Unchanged
If Council Member/Mayor does not resign within 5 days, Council orders recall election	Unchanged	Unchanged
Recall Ballot (City Charter Art. IV § 8)		
"Shall (name of council member) be removed from the office of city council member?"	Unchanged	Unchanged
Options are "For the recall of (name of council member)" and "Against the recall of (name of council member)"	Unchanged	Unchanged
Results of Recall Election (City Charter Art. IV § 9)		
If "Against" receives majority of vote, council member continues in office	Unchanged	Unchanged
If "For" receives majority of vote, office is immediately vacated and special election is called to fill vacancy	Unchanged	Unchanged
Recalled council member may not be a candidate in the special election to fill the vacancy resulting from their recall	Unchanged	Unchanged
Limitation on Recall (City Charter Art. IV § 10)		
No recall within 6 months of council member taking office	Unchanged	Unchanged
No more than 1 recall attempt per term in office	Unchanged	Unchanged

Additional: Review recall petition process every 10 years.