

## 2023-24 Suggested Amendments Received to the Charter Review Commission

The Charter Review Commission is reviewing amendments and voting whether to include or exclude them from a final list for consideration. *These votes are not final.* At one of the later Commi has been included for consideration and give final direction about whether to include it in its recommendations to Council. Amendments that have been excluded from consideration can be s Excluded." Please email [charterreview@dallas.gov](mailto:charterreview@dallas.gov) if you have any questions.

#	Inclusion Vote Info	Date Of Consideration	Suggested Amendment	Chapter	Section	Proposed By	I am submitting as a / on behalf of (select one):	Forum Proposed	Date	Category
15	7-6	2/6/24	Beef up civil service	XVI		Philip Kingston	Resident/ Stakeholder	Email/Memo	10/9/23	Policy
19	13-0	1/23/24	I would like to suggest that Board and Commissions be able to vote on and select their own Vice Chairs.	Do not know		Lane Conner	Resident/ Stakeholder	Online Form	11/2/23	Operational
22	13-0	1/11/24	Amend language "... On--By the 15th day of August..."	XI	1	Terry Lowery	Commissioner	Email/Memo	11/9/23	Technical
35	13-0	1/11/24	Edit language: "No person shall be eligible as a candidate for member of council, Place 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, or 14, unless the person is at the time a bona fide resident of District 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, or 14, respectively, <u>has resided continuously in Texas for 12 months</u> , and has resided within the district in which the person is a candidate for a period of at least six months prior to the date of the <u>regular filing deadline for a candidate's application for a place on the ballot</u> [election]. Any person elected to a place representing a district must continuously reside in the district during that person's term of office. A candidate for member of council, Place 15, may be a resident of any portion of the city, <u>must have resided continuously in Texas for 12</u>	IV	6	City Secretary's Office	City Department	Email/Memo	11/29/23	Technical
43	13-0	1/23/24	REMOVE the following language "All bids submitted shall be sealed and shall be opened in a public place as directed by the city council, and in the presence of persons that may be designated by the city council, and shall remain open to public inspection for at least 48 hours before any award of said work is made to any competitive bidder. The provisions of this section regarding the retaining of bids 48 hours before awarding the work shall not apply to bids for the purchase of bonds. (Amend. of 4-2-83, Prop. No. 1)"	XXII	3	Office of Procurement Services	City Department		12/7/23	Operational
45	13-0	1/11/24	Delete the phrase: "the city secretary is reasonably able to verify the truth of the affidavit of residency."	IV	6(c)(2)	City Secretary's Office	City Department	Email/Memo	12/11/23	Technical
58	12-1 with language included for City Auditor, too	1/23/24	Edit language: "The city council shall provide the city secretary with such assistants <b>and employees</b> as it may deem necessary, and they shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the council. Any such assistant <b>and employee</b> may be discharged at any time by the city secretary. All powers and duties imposed on the city secretary may be exercised and performed by any assistant under the city secretary's direction."	IIIA	2	City Secretary's Office	City Department	Email/Memo	12/20/23	Operational

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		<b>1/11/24</b>								
<b>61</b>	<b>13-0</b>		If the last day for performance of an act is a Saturday, Sunday, or national, state, or local holiday, the act is timely if performed on the next regular business day.	III	1	City Attorney's Office/City Secretary's Office	City Department	Online Form	1/5/24	Technical
<b>62</b>	<b>13-0</b>	<b>1/11/24</b>	Each member of the city council shall, in addition to the other qualifications prescribed by law, be at the date of election a qualified voter of the city, and shall not be in arrears in the payment of [any taxes or other] liabilities due the city related to holding office.	III	3	City Attorney's Office/City Secretary's Office	City Department	Online Form	1/5/24	Technical
<b>63</b>	<b>13-0</b>	<b>1/11/24</b>	A lien is hereby created on all property, personal and real, in favor of the City of Dallas, for all taxes, ad valorem, occupation or otherwise. Said lien shall exist from the earlier of 30 days after the tax is due or January 1 of [in] each year until the taxes are paid. Such lien shall be prior to all other claims, and no gift, sale, assignment or transfer of any kind, or judicial writ of any kind, can ever defeat such lien, but the tax assessor and collector may pursue such property, and whenever found may seize	XIX	7	City Attorney's Office	City Department	Online Form	1/5/24	Technical
<b>64</b>	<b>13-0</b>	<b>1/11/24</b>	Appeal deadline should be amended to reflect 10 days, not 5.	XII, XIII, XVI	4, 9, 11(b)	City Attorney's Office	City Department	Online Form	1/5/24	Technical
<b>65</b>	<b>13-0</b>	<b>1/11/24</b>	Add "A probationary period served as a civilian employee will not satisfy the probationary period for a position in the sworn service with the police department and the fire-rescue department."	XVI	10(a)	City Attorney's Office	City Department	Online Form	1/5/24	Technical
<b>66</b>	<b>12-1</b>	<b>1/11/24</b>	Change "registered voters" to "residents"	XVIII	11(1)	City Attorney's Office	City Department	Online Form	1/5/24	Technical
<b>67</b>	<b>13-0</b>	<b>1/23/24</b>	I would like to propose that the Park Board Vice President be elected by the Park Board instead of the City Council.			Maria Hasbany	Resident/Stakeho	Online Form	1/5/25	Policy

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		3/4/24								
83	14-0		Establish the Office of Inspector General ("OIG") as a fully independent division of the City, similar to the City Manager, City Secretary, City Auditor, and City Attorney, thus providing the OIG with the independence that is needed to effectively operate and conduct investigations without interference and without the limitations actually and practically imposed by virtue of the OIG being a division of the City Attorney's Office.	NEW		Timothy E. Powers for and on behalf of the City of Dallas Ethics Reform Task Force	Resident or stakeholder	Online Form	1/15/24	Policy
90	13-0	2/6/24	Ch. XVI, Sec. 3(b)(1) [discussing who is part of unclassified service] Should state, "and other managerial personnel as designated by city council [rules of the board];"	XVI	3(b)(1)	Civil Service	City Department	Online Form	1/18/24	Policy
91	13-0	2/6/24	"Eliminate subsections §§ 6(b), (d). Add § 6(c)(3): (2) removal or reduction for cause under standard civil service hearing and appeal procedures; or (3) departmental reorganization."	XVI	6(b)-(d)	Civil Service	City Department	Online Form	1/18/24	Policy
94	7-6	2/6/24	Change language in each section relating to eligibility for appointees all Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces away from "citizen", to "residents", "people", or "persons".	Multiple		Stuart Campbell	Commissioner	Online Form	1/18/24	Technical
106	12-1	2/6/24	Propose the following edits: "It shall be the duty of the human resources department [board, in the code of rules and regulations approved by the council,] to recommend personnel rules to be adopted by city council that governing evaluation of conduct and performance and require[ing] remedies for nonperformance for positions in the civil service."	XVI	7	Human Resources	City Department	Online Form	1/19/24	Policy
107	13-0	2/6/24	"Should state, "and other managerial personnel as designated by city council [rules of the board];"	XVI	3(b)	Human Resources	City Department	Online Form	1/19/24	Policy
110	14-0	3/4/24	Insert the language "and or digital format" after newspaper to read as follows: Whenever any ordinance or proposition is required by the Charter to be submitted to the voters of the city at any election, the city secretary shall cause the ordinance or proposition to be printed in a newspaper and or digital format of general circulation in the city and published once at least 10 days prior to election.	XVIII	15	Marshall Mills	Commissioner	Online Form	1/19/24	Technical

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		2/6/24								
114	11-2		Extend the time a petitioner has to collect signatures for an initiative or referendum from 60 to 120 days.	XVIII	11	Angela Hunt	Commissioner	Email/Memo	1/19/24	
		2/6/24								
115	13-0		Reduce the number of signatures required on a petition in support of holding a referendum from 10% of all registered voters in the city to 5%.	XVIII	11	Angela Hunt	Commissioner	Email/Memo	1/19/24	
		3/4/24	"Change to: ""shall be published in one or more local news publications, digital and/or print"" Also suggest: ""in English and Spanish"" and ""communicated through city information channels, including the city website"" Especially for zoning cases, charter language should direct communication to people living in the impacted area."	XV	4(3)	Keri Mitchell	Resident/Stakeho	Online Form	1/19/24	Policy
118	14-0									
		3/4/24	"Change to: published in one or more local news publications to reach a wide and diverse range of Dallas residents Also suggest: in English and Spanish; and communicated through city information channels, including the city website"	Multiple		Keri Mitchell	Resident/Stakeho	Online Form	1/19/24	Policy
119	14-0									
		3/4/24	"Chapter VX The comprehensive land use plan doesn't help property owners with ""alleviation or prevention of slums, obsolescence, blight or other conditions of urban deterioration; and (2) the achievement of the most appropriate use of land."" What it has done is approved gentrification of legacy black and brown communities. What happens to the funding that is allocated to assist with these needs. Public notification throughout city charter: The process used to inform the public as noted in the current charter is outdated. Notification should use mail outs, or local news outlets. Social media can be an option also."			Paula Hutchison	Resident/Stakeho	Online Form	1/19/24	Policy
120	14-0									
		2/6/24	"Chapter III SEC. 7. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings shall be called by the city secretary upon the written request of the mayor, the city manager or FIVE members of the council. Any such notice shall state the subject to be considered at the special meeting and may provide for the taking up of any other matters presented at such meeting."	III	7	Scott Goldstein	Resident/Stakeho	Online Form	1/19/24	Policy
123	7-6									

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Rationale	Notes
<p>ssion meetings, the Commission will vote on each item that een on the second sheet of this document, "Amendments</p> <p>a. Probably by changing definitions in Charter b. Maybe a prohibition on creating exempt jobs</p>	
<p>Currently, the Council chooses these and it tends to turn political. The person that is best suited for the job should be chosen by their peers.</p>	<p>CSO submitted revised language on 12/19/23</p>
<p>This would replace the word "On" with the word "By." Budget Estimate is presented at the CM's Budget Briefing on a Tuesday in August, almost never ON the 15th.</p>	
<p>The Texas Election Code requires a candidate for city council must have lived continuously in Texas for one year preceding the filing deadline for the election. [Election Code 141.001(5)(A)]</p>	
<p>This language is problematic to the confidentiality of procurements and it directly conflicts with the current procedures in our Terms &amp; Conditions and AD 4-5 regarding the management and access to public procurements. Also this is language from 4-2-1983.</p>	
<p>This section is being recommended for deletion as the city secretary does not investigative ("fact fining") authority.</p>	
<p>This edit in language is being recommended to allow the city secretary the ability to hire all staff on the basis of executive and administrative experience, and efficiency of work that they are to administer that is directly related to the duties of the city secretary office and council support.</p>	

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<p>Ch III, Sec 1 requires that "the city council members... shall take office on the first Monday following the 30th calendar day after the final canvass of the general election." No provision is made for weekends and holidays, such as Juneteenth, which can land on this deadline.</p>	
<p>Case law finding that a requirement that elected officials pay taxes and liabilities to be eligible to hold office might be rationally related to governmental interests unless those liabilities are related to the office held/sought</p>	
<p>Revise Sec. 7 to address taxes that accrue on a monthly basis (such as the hotel occupancy tax) so that the city has a lien as they accrue as opposed to only having a lien as of January 1.</p>	
<p>This amendment will match the deadlines in the Personnel Rules.</p>	
<p>This amendment closes a loophole with respect to probationary periods served by sworn members in DPD and DFR. Currently, the rules allow a civilian employee who has passed his or her initial six-month probationary period to subsequently become a police officer or firefighter without serving a new probationary period.</p>	
<p>Buckley v. American Constitutional Law Foundation: A registration requirement was found to be not warranted, as that requirement cuts down on the number of persons who may circulate petitions.</p>	
<p>There is no amendment in the Charter but one would need to be added. The City Code dictates that all Committee Vice Presidents are selected by the City Council and an amendment would need to be added to the Charter to make an exception for the Park Board Vice President. The Park Board is set up to operate much like the City Council and has the ability and knowledge to best identify and elect their own Vice President.</p>	

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<p>"The proposed amendment follows the original intent of the Task Force Report. At the time of the Council's unanimous adoption and implementation of the recommendations made in the Task Force Report in December 2021, it was determined that an amendment to the City Charter would be required to establish the OIG as a new independent division, and that such Charter amendment proposal could be most efficiently done as part of the work of the 2023-2024 Charter Review Commission. This proposal follows that plan. Of course, the proposed amendment does require the approval and recommendation of the Charter Review Commission and the City Council before being presented to voters for approval. As an interim solution, it was determined that the OIG could best be placed as a division of the City Attorney's Office.</p> <p>Moving the OIG to an independent division of the city under the Charter provides the following benefits that are essential to ensure fair results and build public confidence, and they also adhere to best practices under Green Book Standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Maximizes independence and eliminates conflicts of interests for the operations, programs, policies, and procedures over which the OIG has authority.</li> <li>•Frees the OIG from interference in investigating cases that can occur when the OIG is under the supervision of another body.</li> <li>•Allows the OIG to fully exercise its jurisdiction for investigation of fraud and corruption that could be impaired by competing interests if the OIG is under the supervision of another body.</li> <li>•Ensures the confidentiality of the OIG investigation process.</li> <li>•Independence creates a real and perceived deterrent.</li> </ul> <p>Peer cities that have recently established their own offices of inspector general, like Atlanta, Baltimore, New York, and Philadelphia, follow these standards. In implementing this proposal, we will protect the integrity of the OIG and instill the trust and confidence of our citizens in the OIG.</p> <p>A detailed proposal can be presented to the Charter Review Commission at the appropriate time.</p> <p>"</p>	
<p>Conflicts with other provisions.</p>	
<p>Reorganizations and reductions in force should be treated the same with respect to compensation and reassignment.</p>	
<p>Similar to CM Moreno's Amendment and Amendment 66 (which we've already approved), this is to allow the non-citizens residents of Dallas to serve as appointees on Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces.</p>	
<p>In practice, the Human Resources Department fulfills this role.</p>	
<p>Conflicts with other provisions. In addition to resolving the conflict with other provisions, this amendment empowers the City Council to explicitly designate the managerial and confidential positions that fall within or outside the scope of Civil Service rules.</p>	
<p>My concern is the physical paper will not exist in several years so there needs to be language to include digital circulation.</p>	<p><b>grouped with 118, 119, and 120; approved with amended language on March 6</b></p>

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<p>It is nearly impossible for a grassroots group to collect the required number of petition signatures within 60 days. This unrealistic time constraint deprives the public of the only means of proposing legislation outside the City Council process.</p>	
<p>The current standard is excessive and impairs the ability of the public to seek a referendum. The proposed change to 5% sets a high, but achievable, threshold.</p>	<p>Incorporate certain provisions of Section 12A-47 of Chapter 12A ("Code of Ethics") into the City Charter by adding a new Chapter to the City Charter that establishes the Office of Inspector General ("OIG") as a fully independent division of the City, similar to the City Manager, City Secretary, City Auditor, and City Attorney, thus providing the OIG with the independence that is needed to effectively operate and conduct investigations without interference and without the limitations actually and practically imposed by virtue of the OIG being a division of the City Attorney's Office. This amendment will allow the OIG to operate as originally contemplated by the City of Dallas Ethics Reform Task Force ("Task Force") in its September 2021 report ("Task Force Report") and in conformity with the national standards of the Association of Inspectors General (Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General, the "Green Book Standards"). It will also align the operations of the OIG with those of our peer cities.</p>
<p>A "newspaper of general circulation" no longer exists in our city, and many Dallas residents are left out of civic processes because public notices aren't reaching them in a timely and inclusive manner. If the goal of these charter sections is to deliver crucial civic information to as many impacted residents and voters as possible, we need new, intentional and equitable methods.</p>	<p><b>grouped with 110, 119, and 120; approved with amended language on March 6</b></p>
<p>A single "newspaper of general circulation" no longer exists in our city, and many Dallas residents are left out of civic processes because public notices aren't reaching them in a timely and inclusive manner. If the goal of these charter sections is to deliver crucial civic information to as many impacted residents and voters as possible, we need new, intentional and equitable methods.</p>	<p><b>grouped with 110, 118, and 120; approved with amended language on March 6</b></p>
<p>It's important to inform the public because we are the people that live in this city, raise our children, pay taxes, purchase our homes and businesses.</p>	<p><b>grouped with 110, 118, and 119; approved with amended language on March 6</b></p>
<p>This three member threshold exists from when the City Council was nine members. It should be updated to reflect 1/3 of the current 15-member body and align with the existing five signature method of requesting an item for council agenda or briefing.</p>	



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#	Exclusion Vote Info	Date of Consideration	Suggested Amendment	Chapter	Section	Proposed By	Forum Proposed	Category (by Submitter)
3	9-6	2/20/24	Moving election date to November in odd-numbered years	IV	3	David de la Fuente	Call	Policy
4	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	Allow City Plan Commission to contain "a minimum of 15 members"			Planning and Urban Design (COD)		Technical
5	15-0	2/20/24	4-yr council terms, not staggered	III	1	Philip Kingston	Email/Memo	Policy
6	12-3	2/20/24	Expand council to 20-1	III	1	Philip Kingston	Email/Memo	Policy
8	14-1	2/20/24	Abolish council officer positions	III	11	Philip Kingston	Email/Memo	Operational
10	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	Enshrine the 5-signature memo in the Charter	III	21 (new section)	Philip Kingston	Email/Memo	Operational
17	14-1	2/20/24	The City of Dallas conducts its council and mayoral on a three year staggered cycle and change the term limits to (3) three-year terms.	III	5	Randall Bryant	Online Form	Policy
20	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	To provide for the safety of citizens and firefighters, and to comply with nationally recognized standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association, it shall be the policy of the Dallas Fire Rescue Department to provide constant and adequate minimum staffing as defined below. The City shall maintain staffing of all apparatus with a minimum of: 1. Four (4) fire fighters, including at least one (1) fire-fighter/paramedic riding in a non-officer position on all Engines.	XIII		Jim McDade, DFFA	Email/Memo	Operational
21	10-5	2/20/24	3-year terms for Councilmembers, 3-term limit, including Mayor.	III	5	Lisa LeMaster	Email/Memo	Policy
24	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	Remove Article 9, the requirement to have a Thoroughfare Plan, from the charter.	XV	8	Philip Goss	Online Form	Operational
25	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	If Article IX is to be kept, amend street naming to allow for streets to be honorarily named after someone without actually changing the street name.			Philip Goss	Online Form	Policy
26	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	Remove Article 2 section 9-7 through 9-10 (regulations requiring the wearing of bicycle helmets) from Volume 1, Chapter 4.			Philip Goss	Online Form	Policy

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27	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	Remove the specific cost to transport a resident via ambulance from the charter and let it be determined from time to time by council. Additionally, raise the cost to transport non-residents to \$2,500 and increase it annually linked to CPI.			Philip Goss	Online Form	Operational
28	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	Revise the zoning code to: 1) Allow up to three housing units on all single-family properties, raising the one- and two-unit caps in place today 2) Reduce the land needed to build a residence from 5,750 square feet to around 2,500 square feet			Philip Goss	Online Form	Policy
29	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	Adjust "SEC. 36-6. LOCATION OF POLES AND OTHER FIXTURES" to specifically state that utility poles are NOT to be erected within a sidewalk, nor should they in anyway infringe on ADA compliance. Improperly placed poles must be brought into compliance within 60 days or face a fine of \$1,500 per month of noncompliance.			Philip Goss	Online Form	Policy
30	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	Chapter 36 needs to be amended to provide a sunset date for all utilities (power, telephony, etc.) to be buried throughout the city. It should also provide for a date in which no new utility poles can be placed and poles cannot be replaced.			Philip Goss	Online Form	Policy
36	15-0	2/20/24	If the Charter Review Commission recommends changing City Council terms, this section should be modified: "During August of each odd-numbered year, the city council shall begin the nomination process for all members of the commissions and boards provided for in this Charter or which the city council may provide for by ordinance. Such members shall serve for a term as provided by ordinance by the city council not to exceed <del>two years from October 1</del> <b>[TBD by Charter Review Commission]</b> or until their successors are appointed and qualified, except that a member of a board or commission that is only advisory in nature may not hold over in his or her position longer than nine months after the expiration of his or her term or after the creation of a vacancy in his or her position."	XXIV	13	City Secretary's Office	Email/Memo	Operational
38	15-0	2/20/24	Remove the words "until at least one term has elapsed" from the description of Councilmember terms.	III	3a	Cara Mendelsohn	Online Form	Policy
39	14-1	2/20/24	Strike the words "city council" and "council" and replace with Mayor.	III	11	Cara Mendelsohn	Online Form	Operational
42	15-0	2/20/24	The Position of City Manager shall be eliminated, with all power for operation of the city and budget vested solely in the Mayor and City Council.	VI	1	Eugene J. Robinson	Email/Memo	Policy

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		<b>2/20/24</b>						
<b>44</b>	<b>15-0</b>		Currently the Councilmembers must wait 2 years to run again after their 8 year term has ended. We are proposing the waiting period change from two years to four years waiting period.	III	3a	Yolanda Williams	Online Form	Policy
<b>47</b>	<b>Exclude (13-0)</b>	<b>1/23/24</b>	Materials discussed or presented in Planning commissions hearing should match what is published for public view 10 days prior to the meeting. If an item is held for a later hearing, all registered speakers should be notified. Registered speakers should be give at least 24 hours notice that their item will not be presented at the hearing. Planning commission hearing notices and materials should be made available in at least 2 languages.	XV	4	Lisa Neergaard	Online Form	Policy
<b>48</b>	<b>15-0</b>	<b>2/20/24</b>	The amendment is to change the term of the Municipal and Associate Judges from 2 year terms to either a 3-year or a 4-year term depending on the term of council. There are amendments suggesting the City Council be elected to a 3-year or a 4-year term. This amendment would make the term of the judge the same as the term of council.	VIII	4	Judge Preston Robinson Jr	Online Form	Operational
<b>50</b>	<b>15-0</b>	<b>2/20/24</b>						
			Strong Mayor City form of government	IV		Chris Culak	Online Form	Policy
<b>51</b>	<b>Exclude (13-0)</b>	<b>1/23/24</b>	Here is the proposed amendment to the Charter. It belongs in Chapter 2 "Powers of City" (27). Under Chapter 2 (27) In order to protect fundamental human rights, it is further defined that the bodies of the inhabitants (Sec 1) are not owned by the City of Dallas, and that people have the inviolate right to make their own health and body decisions so long as it does not interfere with the rights of another.	II	2	Gail Lewis	Online Form	Operational
<b>52</b>	<b>12-3</b>	<b>2/20/24</b>	Increase the amount of districts and members to represent the Dallas city council.	IV	5	Hany Abdel-Motaleb	Online Form	Policy
<b>54</b>	<b>Exclude (13-0)</b>	<b>1/23/24</b>	No later than the 90th day after an election for a seat on city council, a candidate or officeholder shall distribute the balance of unexpended funds received from political contributions, in excess of any remaining expenses for the election, in a manner compliant the law of the State of Texas.  A candidate or officeholder who, after an election, has unpaid expenses remaining, or who has unreimbursed campaign expenditures, may solicit and accept political contributions after the election until the unpaid expenses are paid and the unreimbursed expenditures are reimbursed.  An officeholder may retain up to \$30,000.00 of funds received from political contributions for the purposes of officeholder expenditures.	IV	New	Albert Mata	Online Form	Operational
<b>56</b>	<b>Exclude (13-0)</b>	<b>2/6/24</b>	Remove or amend "and all assistant city attorneys" from the line "The city attorney and all assistant city attorneys shall devote their entire time to the service of the city."	VII	2	Jamie Guthrie	Online Form	Operational

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		<b>2/20/24</b>						
<b>57</b>	<b>9-5</b>		I propose the Charter be amended to require all local elections be held in November in odd years in order to enhance voter participation.	IV	3	Vicki Meek	Online Form	Policy
		<b>2/20/24</b>						
<b>59</b>	<b>15-0</b>		Change Chapter IV Section 3 of the City Charter to state that General elections for the purpose of electing member to the City Council shall be held on the state-wide uniform election date in November of even-numbered years. Any other amendments necessary to transition from odd-numbered to even-numbered years should be drafted by the City Attorney's office and passed.  If this does not pass, then at minimum, the election date should be changed to November of odd-numbered years.	IV	3	Christine Hopkins	Online Form	Policy
		<b>1/23/24</b>						
<b>60</b>	<b>Exclude (13-0)</b>		"The City of Dallas shall honor its obligations." Please fund the Police and Fire Pensions, as promised and required by law.	XI		Susan Drake	Online Form	Operational
		<b>1/23/24</b>						
<b>68</b>	<b>Exclude (13-0)</b>		The city shall annually report on progress in improving pedestrian, bicycle and electric vehicles under twenty miles per hour infrastructure and safety, and establish specific goals for the expansion and enhancement of these transportation modes. [CHAPTER XX. PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS. NEW SECTION]	XV	8	Harry Swanson	Online Form	Operational
		<b>2/20/24</b>						
<b>69</b>	<b>12-3</b>		Expand City Council to 15-1	III	1	Minister Dominique Alexander	Online Form	Policy
		<b>2/6/24</b>						
<b>71</b>	<b>Exclude (13-0)</b>		Allow for third-party consultants to perform Building Inspections and Permit Reviews on any new construction or renovation projects	XXIV	7	Stephen Lohr	Online Form	Operational
		<b>1/23/24</b>						
<b>72</b>	<b>Exclude (13-0)</b>		The Charter should reflect that city employees should be considered vital/essential workers who are required to work - in some capacity - when the city experiences crises like the February 2021 SnowMaggedon; other weather events; demonstrations; destructive protests; explosions, etc. Our 13,000 employees should be considered like Army Reserves, ready and able to be deployed where staffing is most needed, and no matter what job you were hired to do. In emergencies, it's "all hands on deck! During SnowMaggedon, restaurant workers were considered "essential", but at City Hall, many staffers were at home and not working. If you're an engineer or planner, you could be assigned to answer phone calls - which went unanswered most often during SnowMaggedon.	XVII		Ken Smith	Online Form	Policy
		<b>1/23/24</b>						
<b>73</b>	<b>Exclude (13-0)</b>		The charter should reflect that the municipality is reachable 24 hours a day, in person, or by phone, internet, messaging, etc. However, this cannot be done without having communication systems and people who understand that the common thread for all positions and departments is: "beyond the call of duty" service" to our citizens. As a former City of Dallas employee, I am	Chapter XXIV Section 7		Ken Smith	Online Form	Operational

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74	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	My grandfather use to say "If we don't know where we're going, it doesn't matter what road we take". The Charter should require that the city manager, council, and mayor develop, oversee, and update frequently short-and long-term VISIONS for our city - always looking at least 5 years ahead. Instead, city leadership continues to churn out annual budgets with lightweight metrics that emphases busyness over outcomes or results. This rolling, ever-evolving Vision should be the result of input from citizens, the business community, and city officials. They must contain simple, yet measurable metrics; and citizens - who pay the lion's share of the cost of our bloated bureaucracy, should have the most 'say so'. Right now, unelected special interest provide the agenda for city hall, and the rest of us get what's left over. This VISION requires the contracting of organizational development experts with experience in real change.	I don't know		Ken Smith	Online Form	Policy
75	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	The Charter should boldly state that the primary responsibility of city government is to provide quality, measurable, affordable, innovative BASIC city services (e.g Water, Sanitation, Code, 311, Libraries, Communications, DPD, Fire, Park & Rec, and other "outward-facing" services. Departments that do not provide direct benefit to citizens should be evaluated as 2nd and 3 tier priorities. We will never make the main thing the main thing until the city is held accountable for it. Every mayor/council brings its own priorities, and we're constantly chasing new, shiny things while ignoring the basics. This charter change requires changes to the way the city budgets and conducts performance evaluations.	I don't know		Ken Smith	Online Form	Policy
76	15-0	2/20/24	I recommend a substantive rewrite of the governance provisions of the charter. It was written more than 150 years ago by wealthy businessmen that became known as the Citizens Council. They intentionally created the charter to make the mayor 'weak' so that power would remain with their group. They gave considerable authority to the city manager, but withheld from the position oversight of city judges, the city attorney, city secretary and city auditor. Therefore, the city manager is limited in his/her authority; and the city council, at that time, was voted At Large, thereby preventing anyone who wasn't handpicked from the Citizens Council from winning. Although we moved to single member districts in the 1980s, very little has changed related to the distribution of power in Dallas. Therefore, we are recommending that the city attorney, auditor,	i don't know		Ken Smith	Online Form	Operational
77	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	The charter should be amended to require that the annual Performance Evaluations of all department heads, the mayor, the city manager, ACMs and other direct reports to the mayor, city manager and council include a formal process that includes input from citizens, and that citizen feedback determine at least 50% of the evaluation. Citizens spring for most of the city's annual 4-billion-dollar budget yet have little to no 'say so' about the job performance of those spending our money. In a democracy, citizens are in charge. Although the City contracts with a company to conduct an annual service delivery survey, city leadership ignores the input from citizens, and does what it wants to do. Therefore, the charter change must contain language that obligates leadership to abide by citizen wishes.	I dont know		Ken Smith	Online Form	Policy
78	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	It seems unconstitutional and downright wrong that the city has municipal immunity in certain court and real estate transaction, and that police have immunity in criminal/court cases, even when an officer kills a civilian. Citizens don't have such immunity. Right is right and wrong is wrong. It is my understanding that the city is not bound by Seller Disclosure rules that requires other sellers to tell buyers what they know about the property in question. These 'escapes' allow the government to get away with malfeasance, legally. This is wrong morally and ethically.	I don't know		Ken Smith	Online Form	Policy
79	12-3	2/20/24	Although single member districts are preferable to All At Large elections, one of its shortcomings is that only leaves the mayor, who has little authority, looking out for the entire city. As I look at South Dallas single member districts have been the norm, I see little improvement in the area. I recommend adding 2-3 At large positions, so that there are individuals responsible for the good of the whole. Who do we go to now if we have disagreements with our councilperson? The mayor? - the position that has so little power?	I don't know		Ken Smith	Online Form	Policy

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80	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	The charter should adopt measurable metrics by which to evaluate the effectiveness of the council, mayor, city manager, ACMS, and their direct reports. None of these individuals should receive pay increases unless and until they meet or exceed agreed upon measures that prove their effectiveness as leaders. Right now, council can vote to give itself a car allowance or a raise without having to approve their effectiveness. Did they save the citizens money? Did they improve service delivery? Did they develop innovative or more efficient or cost-effective ways of doing things? They do not deserve the raises they have received. How dare they improve their finances on the back of citizens who find it increasingly difficult to make ends meet. Practice the same austerity and restraint that citizens have to practice. Walk a mile in our shoes. Pay raises should be placed on the ballot to be approved by the citizens after proof is provided on their leadership and fiscal responsibility.	I don't know		Ken Smith	Online Form	Policy
81	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	The charter should allow citizens and nonprofit organizations to retain the right to initiate amortization processes against businesses that are in non-conforming use with their respective PD, Planned Development District. The City attorney has recently stated that her interpretation of state law grants this power to municipalities, not to citizens. For decades, citizens had the right to bring actions against companies or businesses who no longer remain good partners. The City's Planning and Urban Design department, ironically, has drafted language opposed to 'residential adjacency' of polluting or nuisance businesses located next to residential communities. Throughout South and West Dallas, home are located next door or across the street from heavy industry. The planning department sees that these entities cannot share property lines and be compatible. Yet the city attorney says it's ok. These are dueling actions that need consensus.	I dont know		Ken Smith	Online Form	Policy
82	15-0	2/20/24	Council terms should be extended to 3 or 4 years. The current two year terms keep elected officials in constant campaign mode. It takes time to learn the position, and the position continues to change. It is difficult also for complex projects to be completed when the councilperson changes every 2 years. Change is good, but this is the type of change that is disruptive. I also recommend moving municipal elections to November. We have dismal turnout for municipal elections in May. We have to try something different to see if it can work better. Doing the same old thing doesn't make sense.	I don't know		Ken Smith	Online Form	Policy
84	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	CH XIX. Sec 2. LEVY AND COLLECTION should be amended to allow property tax relief with some form of property tax exemption for small commercial property owners/landlords.	XIX	2	Joella Prause	Online Form	Policy
86	Exclude (13-0)	2/6/24	"Remove Section 2, from Chapter XV as the language is obsolete: SEC. 2. URBAN CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION AND REDEVELOPMENT. The council may by ordinance provide for urban redevelopment, rehabilitation and conservation programs for: (1) the alleviation or prevention of slums, obsolescence, blight or other conditions of urban deterioration; and (2) the achievement of the most appropriate use of land. (Renumbered by Amend. of 6-12-73, Prop. No. 43)"	XV	2	Planning and Urban Design	Online Form	Policy
87	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	In Section 3, Chapter XV, update the following language to reflect the current practices for appointments, as codified in other applicable codes: "The city council shall name one of the members to be the chair and one to be the vice chair" to say "Each city council member shall appoint one member to the plan and zoning commission. The mayor shall appoint the chair from among the members, subject to confirmation by the city council."	XV	3	Planning and Urban Design	Online Form	Operational

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89	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	<p>"Amending Chapter 4 of the Dallas City Charter to add new Section 14 establishing a "Democracy Dollars" Program to provide eligible Dallas residents up to four (4) \$25 Democracy Dollar Vouchers ("Democracy Dollars") per election cycle to use for contributions to participating city council or mayoral candidates. The Democracy Dollars may be donated to a resident's district city council or mayoral candidate. The purpose of the Democracy Dollars program is to ensure that all people of Dallas have equal opportunity to participate in political campaigns and are heard by candidates, to strengthen democracy, to fulfill the purposes of single-member districts, to enhance candidate competition, and to prevent corruption. [Please see ""Notes"" column for full proposal]"</p>	IV	14 (NEW)	Cody Meador, Liz Wally, Diana Burns	Email/Memo	Policy
92	Exclude (13-0)	1/23/24	<p>Adopt a Most Favored Pricing (MFP) policy for all city contracts, coupled with procedural guidelines to ensure effective implementation. [See "Notes" column for full proposal]</p>			Scott Beck	Email/Memo	
95	15-0	2/20/24	<p>"In the event at-large voting districts are created, have the voters choose directly the Mayor Pro Tempore and the Deputy Pro Tempore by having the elections for the at-large city council seats be for those positions as well.</p> <p>These selections of which at-large seat would be Pro Tem or Deputy Pro Tem could be:                      (1) Fixed, meaning at-large seat 1 is always Pro Tem and at-large seat 2 is always Deputy, or                      (2) these seats could alternate per election cycle.                      Option 1 makes the most since."</p>	III	11	Stuart Campbell	Online Form	Policy
99	Exclude (12-1)	2/6/24	<p>Amend Chapter 15, Section 4 of the Charter to authorize administrative approval of plat applications.</p>	XV	4	Brent Rubin	Email/Memo	

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100	13-0	2/6/24	Add language: "The power is further conferred upon the city to construct underground or subterranean public improvements, vehicular or pedestrian tubes, tunnels, or subway streets or other public subsurface facilities, and to provide that the cost of making any such improvements shall be paid for by the property owners owning property in the territory specially benefitted in enhanced value by reason of making such improvements. A personal charge shall be made against such owners and a lien shall be fixed by special assessment against any such property (with the exception of property owners 50% or below the AMI). The city may issue assignable or negotiable certificates, as it deems advisable, covering such cost, and may provide for the payment of such cost in deferred payments and fix the rate of interest not to exceed eight percent. It may provide for the appointment of special commissioners for the making or levying of said special assessments, or may provide that the same may be done by the city council. The rules and regulations shall be the same as those applicable in the assessing for the improving of a street, as nearly as practicable.	XX	12	Office of Equity and Inclusion	Email/Memo	
102	15-0	2/20/24	I am proposing the City Attorney's Office report to the City Manager but the hiring of the city attorney still be appointed by the City Council.	VII	1	Minister Dominique Alexander	Online Form	Policy
105	15-0	2/20/24	Council members should be elected in staggered terms. Depending on whether the commission decides on 3 or 4 year terms, or if the terms stay at 2 years, council terms should be staggered between the districts.	III	1	Adam McGough	Online Form	Policy
112	13-0	2/6/24	I would like for the Dallas City Charter to preclude board and commission members from endorsing any Dallas City Councilmember and prohibit any board or commission member from working on any Dallas City Council members political campaign and prohibit any board or commission member from donating to any Dallas City Council Members political campaign.	XXIV	13	Honorable Kevin Felder	Online Form	Policy
116	Exclude (12-1)	2/6/24	Clarify that platting authority is delegated by City Council, which may allow future potential amendments to Article 8 of Chapter 51A to expand administrative plat approval for certain plats.	XV	4	Jennifer Hiromoto	Online Form	Operational



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117	Exclude (11-2)	2/6/24	<p>"The City of Dallas has adopted a citywide Bike Plan in the past and will be considering adoption of a new plan in 2024. The Bike Plan should be coordinated with and tied to the Thoroughfare Plan as both deal with our citywide transportation network and roadway design.</p> <p>The portion of the Thoroughfare Plan that is written into the City Charter says that City Council will adopt a Thoroughfare Plan by ordinance and that any change in that ordinance requires a public hearing, and notification of all property owners within 200 feet of the area of the proposed change.</p> <p>The Bike Plan should be granted the same status within the City Charter as the Thoroughfare Plan."</p>	XV	8	Philip Hiatt Haigh	Online Form	Policy
70	15-0	3/4/24	<p>Have the Park &amp; Recreation Department be administered by the Park &amp; Recreation Director under the supervision of the city manager and oversight authority to the Park &amp; Recreation Board.</p>	XVIII	1	Minister Dominique Alexander	Online Form	Policy
85	15-0	3/4/24	<p>Bring the Parks Department under the management and supervision of the City Manager. [Please see "Notes" column for suggested redline]</p>	XVIII	1	Chris Luna	Email/Memo	Policy

## 2023-24 Suggested Amendments Received to the Charter Review Commission

Rationale	Could Result In Litigation?	Better Served Through Internal Dept. Policy or Amendment to Code?	Considered previously?	Simple for Voters to Understand	Amendment Complete?	Notes
a. The 2-year terms create huge swaths of the elected terms where the council member is too timid b. Staggering is a bad idea bc it will reduce turnout c. Can't move the elections to November bc of state law						
a. Takes district population back to almost exactly what it was when 14-1 was enacted b. Makes it for easier to draw diverse districts						
a. These have been utterly powerless by law since 2014 b. They're used to ensure council can't form coalitions						
		YES				
This amendment will extend council representation limits by one year while reducing respective council elections by one cycle.						
This amendment would codify how the daily staffing is done on all fire apparatus in Dallas. The rationale is outlined in the National Fire Protection standards that we follow when it comes to response times and how apparatus respond.		YES				DFR has indicated that this is an operational decision best made by the Chief. This could possibly be in something like the Meet and Confer agreement, but would not be best served as a Charter amendment.
In its current form, the thoroughfare plan is too restrictive and is used by city staff to slow walk badly needed changes to streets to make them safer for all users. Due to the thoroughfare plan, lanes cannot be made narrower, lanes cannot be reduced, and other changes are impossible without a full ordinance from council.						Thoroughfare plan is found in Ch 15, Sec 8 of the Charter.
Changing street names as often as Dallas does places both a direct and indirect cost burden to citizens (updating official documents, updating government IDs, etc.). By providing an honorary street naming program, the city can still honor people without placing further burden on citizens.		YES				This is a Code amendment, not Charter
It is not enforced uniformly, and is only used to harass.		YES				This is a Code amendment, not Charter

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Prices for services should change from time to time and shouldn't require an election to vote on amendment. Council should be able to affect these prices with simple majority vote.		YES					This is a Code amendment, not Charter
We need more housing and the current regulations do not allow for density of residential housing needed. If we keep the current policy in place, homelessness will continue unabated and housing affordability will continue to worsen.		YES					This is a Code amendment, not Charter
The charter needs to explicitly state that utility poles cannot interfere with mobility and must comply with ADA regulations. There must also be an enforcement mechanism otherwise Oncor, and others, will never bring their poles into compliance.		YES					This is a Code amendment, not Charter
Utility poles are an eyesore but also a huge impedance for mobility throughout the city. This would clear our sidewalks and also enhance the city. They would also great improve the resiliency of our grid during weather extremes as no trees would fall on power lines.		YES					This is a Code amendment, not Charter
This section should be modified based on if the Charter Review Commission recommends changing City Council terms.							
Incumbents receive a significant election advantage of name recognition. Serving a maximum of 4 terms allows a Councilmember time to contribute significantly to the city. As a large city, there are many qualified Dallas residents who can serve as representatives of their district. Final term limits, meaning without an ability to return to the same office, prevent a concentration of power, allows for fresh perspectives, minimizes the risk of corruption, and fosters a more responsive political environment.							
City Council elections of these officer positions [Mayor Pro Tem and Deputy Mayor Pro Tem] are divisive and dictated by demographics. The current system allows for members to be selected that may not work in harmony with the mayor or each other. Allowing a mayor to select the officer positions would allow for trust and communication between these members, leading to more delegation of initiatives and public appearance duties, as well as policy consensus-building among councilmembers.							
The City Manager position must be eliminated. It produces nothing of benefit and is a hinderance to the operation of the city. The Position is unelected and not responsible to the Citizens of Dallas. Our city is weak and badly run because of the poor decisions coming out of the city manager. This office fights with the mayor, makes unpopular and disruptive decisions, wastes money, and refuses to hire police to keep us safe!							

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<p>Currently term Councilmembers must wait two years before, they can run for council again. Proposed change, waiting period from two years to four years. It's important that the city adopts this amendment to give others the opportunity to serve. Also, to decrease the complacency in the District.</p>							
<p>It is common for planning commissioners to continue to negotiate changes to zoning request language in the days prior to a hearing. This means that the public does not have access to the materials being presented to voted on at the hearing. Additionally, it has become common for commissioners or applicants to decide to hold an item to the subsequent meeting in the hours before the meeting; burdening residents who took time out of the day/off work only to be asked to come back later.</p>							
<p>It is important for the term of the Municipal Judge to be the same as the term of the Dallas City Council. The Judges are the direct appointees of The Council.</p>							<a href="#">link to full s</a>
<p>The elected mayor should have the power to operate the city as this person is elected by the citizens of the city.</p>							<a href="#">link to full s</a>
<p>It is paramount that "inhabitants" are further defined as not being owned by the City of Dallas in Section 1, and that their fundamental human rights are inviolate as to their own body and health decisions, so long as it does not interfere with the rights of another.</p>							
<p>The total population of the City of Dallas has increased 30% since 1990. As a result, the residents of Dallas are receiving less and lower quality representation. The Charter has not been updated in decades to reflect proper representation for the growing Dallas population. Therefore, an increase of 4 districts would help keep the same ratio of residents to council people.</p>							
<p>Reduces the influence of money on elections. Levels the playing field for all candidates. Doesn't permit for candidates to stockpile campaign funds for another election. Every election is a fresh start.</p>						<p>Chapter IV. Election and Referendums Section (New). Limits on Campaign Contributions and Expenditures</p>	
<p>The purpose would be to allow assistant city attorneys the ability to practice law outside of the time that they devote to city affairs.</p>							

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<p>Currently, voter turnout for local elections is very low. I believe the changing of the month to one that is associated with national elections will potentially increase voter participation.</p>							
<p>Changing the date of elections to coincide with important state-wide and Federal elections will significantly increase voter turnout and result in a more democratic and equitable election process in the City of Dallas.</p> <p>Voter turnout for the May 2023 city council elections was abysmal, with voter turnout ranging from 3% of the voting age population to 10% of the voting age population for contested city council elections. <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ghkeEvd8xlrDKB6NSL8fmJ4CGaTw4KyX/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=103555023162459851198&amp;rtopof=true&amp;sd=true">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ghkeEvd8xlrDKB6NSL8fmJ4CGaTw4KyX/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=103555023162459851198&amp;rtopof=true&amp;sd=true</a></p> <p>This is also a racial equity issue as elections in May see a higher voter turnout in majority white city council districts (6% to 10% for contested elections) and lower voter turnouts in majority minority city council districts (3% to 4% in majority black districts and 3% to 6% in majority Hispanic districts).</p> <p>Resources will also be saved by combining local City elections with state-wide and/or Federal elections, especially if other local political subdivisions are encouraged to follow suit by the City's leadership on this important issue impacting our democracy. Rather than the government expending significant sums of taxpayer money to hold poorly attended elections in May as well as better attended elections in November, all elections can be held together in November.</p>							
<p>The City of Dallas has failed to meet its obligations to retired police officers and firefighters. We are drowning under inflation and can look forward to sinking further down every year. This is not only callous and unethical, it's illegal.</p>							
<p>Dallas County for decades has implemented car-centric policies, which turned it into one of the country's most automobile-dependent metro areas. With approximately 2.1 million vehicles and anticipated growth of 30,000 vehicles per year, the cost of road construction is becoming uncontrollable, congestion is increasing to an unbearable point and accidents are increasing at an unfortunate rate. Something different has to be done, which is putting pedestrians, bicycles and electric vehicles under 20 miles per hour at forefront of the movement of people, goods and services in the City of Dallas.</p>						<p>Submitter indicated this should be in both Chapter XV and Chapter XX</p>	
<p>"a. It's allows for more diverse representation b. The population has almost doubled since 14-1 was put in place"</p>							
<p>The city is not currently able to perform reviews and inspections in a timely and efficient manner. Other large cities in the state allow for this process, including the city of Ft. Worth. Third-party consultants would help to alleviate the inherent bottle necks in the current City of Dallas model and speed up development and construction.</p>							
<p>I called city hall often during SnowMaggedon and other events, and phones just rang and rang. They were not even forwarded to persons who were at work. Information/communication is the most critical function during an emergency. Many staffers were allowed to use the event as a vacation. The worse offender was the city manager's office. Develop a crisis communication plan, practice/fine-tune the plan at least twice a year, and pre-assign ALL staff to secondary crisis positions. An attorney can answer at hotline phone from home. A crisis sheds light on the failures or your day-to-day operations. Try calling city hall on Fridays in the executive offices, and see what you get.</p>							
<p>Do a test. Call different departments at city hall everyday for a week. You will see how many phone go unanswered, are not forwarded, and have voice messages of persons who no longer work there. All staff, old and new, need at least an annual refresher on phone etiquette and professionalism. We have 48 city departments.</p>							

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<p>My organization paid a reputable company to summarize all of the city sponsored "plans" for South Dallas/Fair Park over the last 50 years. We were shocked to discover SD/FP had been the focal point of 168 plans - none implemented. There is no formal effort that requires city departments to work, plan and budget TOGETHER. For example, the city believes that crime is the responsibility of DPD. However, shouldn't Parks &amp; Rec, Code, Sanitation, Integrated Public Safety, DFR, City Attorney, Libraries, and DISD share responsibility for crime reduction? It has been proved that crime decreases when rec centers are fully staffed. Nuisance business wouldn't have crime if Code prevented them from getting permits they don't deserve. Effective governance is a shared responsibility!</p>							
<p>The City has no way of determining how effective it is because it has too many departments and too many priorities. By focusing on BASIC quality service delivery, we can set a benchmark from which to grow. Citizens pay thru the nose for services they can understand and see. But how do we measure the effectiveness of this mayors ethics initiative, when unethical things happen before our eyes everyday. It's smoke and mirrors. Citizens want their trash picked up, for DPD to respond quickly, and to pay a reasonable price without these services costing more annually while the service level declines. The Charter was designed, on purpose, to address the needs and desires of wealthy influencers; and not based on the needs of ordinary citizens. The Charter is the place where this fundamental, structural change can be made.</p>							
<p>As an advocate for South Dallas for 12 years, we deal with city departments weekly. Many of the complex challenges our community faces cannot be solved by department heads because the issues cross departmental lines. We are constantly faced with issues of who has authority, and solutions are left unattended and unresolved. One project stands out where the city wants community developers to build 40 houses in an area, but the city did not disclose to the developers the ground and ground water contamination in the area; drugs and homeless had overtaken the area; a polluting foundry shares a property line with some of the lots; and 18 wheelers carrying hazardous materials drives down residential streets daily,</p>							
<p>In a one-one-one meeting with former chief Hall, and in a small group meeting with Chief Garcia, I asked about the process for citizen input into the performance evaluations of police officers that we deal with closely on a routine basis. There was no former process, but they both said citizens may write a letter or memo at anytime. I also posed the question of a councilperson, who had the same response. The people who spend our money, and who deliver such poor services need to help accountable for results. Like with leadership, 50% of the results should be determined by citizen input. On so many issues, we end up fighting against city hall, when city hall should be yielding to our requests since we are the paying client. We've experienced "city-led" governance for so long, that it sounds revolutionary to even voice key words from our nation's constitution: "government of the people, by the people, for the people"</p>							
<p>Do unto others what you would have them do unto you.</p>							
<p>When single member districts were approved in the 80s, most people don't know that there were several scenarios contemplated. There was a 15 - 0; and 11 - 3; and 8 - 3, among others. It should be the responsibility of someone(s) to consider a decision's impact on the entire city; and to provide all citizens an alternative to their councilperson - especially considering that only 6 to 10 percent of our electorate vote.</p>							

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<p>Where are the checks and balances with the current system? City leadership can vote itself a raise anytime, especially when the city is staring bankruptcy in the face with the lingering Pension crisis? City seems clueless to what its policies are doing to the citizens. The consensus in my community is the city is an enemy. How can you vote for a raise for yourselves when people are losing their homes thru runaway housing valuations and taxes. Tone depth!</p>							
<p>Stated previously. Don't take away rights from citizens who have so few rights as it is. The City should be empowering citizens.</p>							
<p>Already provided</p>							
<p>Small business property owners/landlords are the backbone of the economy. Large corporate developers/investors are supported by generous local and state tax abatements and incentives. Homeowners have both homestead and over-65 exemptions. The small commercial business owner/landlord has NO tax relief. To deny the small business property owner/landlord tax relief is discriminatory and violates equitable treatment by the City and County of Dallas.</p>							
<p>the language is obsolete and not aligned with current City Policies.</p>							
<p>the language does not reflect the current practices and codes for appointments of Chair and Vice Chair of CPC.</p>							

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<p>“(PLEASE SEE NOTES) A public small voucher campaign contribution option, added to our current campaign finance system of disclosure and contribution limits, will help assure fair representation on the city council from a broader and more diverse electorate. The 14-1 singlemember district system has helped ensure representation for all areas of our City-- not just a few select wealthy areas that historically dominated Dallas -- by requiring that candidates come from and are elected by their distinct geographic district. Currently, however, substantial amounts of the campaign funding for city council district candidates still comes from outside their districts, primarily from those same few wealthy areas of Dallas. A public small voucher program would address the unfair, excess influence of a few wealthy Dallas areas that dominate contributions, by allowing participating candidates to raise much of their funding from their own district constituents’ small vouchers. A publicly financed voucher program would provide an option to supplement the current privately financed campaign contribution system by requiring participating candidates to agree to lower contribution limits, strict self-funding limits, and expenditure limits. These limits could not be waived if other candidates do not participate. The current system would remain essentially the same for nonparticipating candidates.”</p>						<a href="#">link to full suggestion</a>	
<p>These measures will significantly enhance the integrity and efficiency of the City of Dallas’s contract procurement processes, ensuring fiscal responsibility and fair play in public sector contracts. I urge the committee to seriously consider this proposal and the accompanying procedural guidelines. Adopting these measures will set a precedent for municipal contracts, potentially leading to substantial savings and more efficient use of public funds.</p>						<a href="#">link to full suggestion</a>	
<p>If one or more of the currently submitted at-large district amendments succeed, the most democratic and fair way of choosing who the Pro Tem and Dep. Pro Tem should be would be to let the voters choose. It also is an easy way of understanding at-large districts - voters will more easily understand that they are voting for at-large councilmembers if an elevated role/title is attached to the at-large seat.</p>							
<p>In 2023, the Legislature amended Local Government Code Section 212.0065 to substantially broaden the circumstances in which a municipality can delegate authority to approve a plat, which by default rests with a planning commission, to an employee or officer of the municipality—i.e., administrative approval. Currently, the Charter tasks the City Plan Commission with considering plat applications, which, at best, leaves it uncertain whether the CPC’s authority can be delegated through administrative approval. Any delegation would also require a separate code amendment, through which the specifics of the administrative approval process could be worked out, so this Charter amendment would facilitate consideration of, but not mandate, an administrative approval process. Among other things, an administrative approval process should be considered because it has the potential to make development processes more efficient and because it could decrease the workload of CPC without significantly increasing workload of city staff, which already thoroughly reviews platting applications before they are presented to CPC.</p>							



## 2023-24 Suggested Amendments Received to the Charter Review Commission

<p>Equity is a Core Value for the City of Dallas and as such we consider residents with greatest need. Economic disparities in income for instance, often lead to inequities in access to opportunities, services and basic needs. When we consider residents with greatest needs and the systemic inequities they often disproportionately face, we can reduce and close disparity gaps thereby fostering a more equitable and inclusive Dallas.</p>							
<p>This increases transparency to the public about the day to day function of city attorney's office and gives the city council more direction of the city currently the City Attorney has more authority to ignore the will of the residents.</p>							
<p>The council is less efficient when the entire council is up for election at the same time. The election process does not allow for the requisite scrutiny of all the council candidates due to limited resources, focus and time when all 14 districts have elections at the same time.</p>							
<p>Because this happened very recently where a current City Council Member appointed a Redistricting Commissioner that in turn endorsed him for re-election, campaigned for him, donated to his campaign and had a campaign event at her home for him. That is egregious!</p>							
<p>HB 3699 allows for municipalities to delegate platting authority to an administrative level. Not all plats require public notice. Plats are at the end of the City Plan Commission hearing, which can often run over 10 hours long, costing staff overtime/comp time. CPC has no subjective criteria for commercial plats and ministerially approves these plats. Commercial plats at the administrative level could reduce development timelines by 2-6 weeks.</p>							

## 2023-24 Suggested Amendments Received to the Charter Review Commission

<p>The City of Dallas needs to increase transportation options for residents as our population grows. The Bike Plan should be considered a safe and reliable transportation option along with our roadways. Adding the same protections to the Bike Plan that the Thoroughfare Plan currently has would ensure that bike facilities are planned, designed, and implemented with the same viability as vehicular roadways.</p>							
<p>The current way only continues a inequitable Dallas that serves wealthy area and fails to address impoverish area's of Dallas, the city of Dallas has a racial equity plan that the park board doesn't even recognized, lastly it this only keeps the city parks &amp; recreation department open for private agenda's for gentrification plan to displace minority communities.</p>							
<p>The park and recreation department is the only department that does not report directly to the city manager. I think that it would be efficient and effective to have the park and recreation department directly under the management and supervision of the city manager. The role of the park and recreation is too important to have them in a silo. This would also allow the elected city council representatives to have larger and more important role in the operations of the park and recreation department.</p>						<p><a href="#">suggested redline from Mr. Luna linked here</a></p>	

#	Reason for Withdrawal	Suggested Amendment	Chapter	Section	Proposed By	I am submitting as a / on behalf of (select one):
11	Withdrawn at the request of Mr. Kingston.	Streamline judicial hiring	VIII	4	Philip Kingston	Resident/Stakeholder
16	Mr. Williams has withdrawn his amendment via email in order to support Mr. de la Fuente's RCV amendment.	Ranked Choice Voting for municipal elections	IV	11	Britton Williams	Resident/Stakeholder
18	Withdrawn at the request of Mr. Bryant.	Prohibition of residents concurrently serving on City of Dallas Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces	XXIV	17	Randall Bryant	Resident/Stakeholder
23	CAO and OHS discussed and determined this has already been addressed by prior actions.	Reverse a 1989 amendment, excluding City employees from certain housing programs. Specifically, "Prohibits city employees from participating in federally funded housing programs from the city".	XXII	11	Office of Homeless Solutions	City Department
31	Withdrawn at the request of Mr. Mata.	Limit campaign expenditures for city council candidates during election cycles. Cap political expenditures for the six months preceding a general election up to and not to exceed \$1 per constituent, rounded to the nearest ten thousand. For a runoff election the limit shall be \$.50 dollars per constituent. Population as measured by the most recent decennial census of the United States. Expenses should be recognized at time services/products are delivered. The expenditure caps should be increased by 2% every election cycle so as to maintain spending power, ease of calculation.  Calculation example: if district has 89,000 residents as of the 2020 census, then a candidate for city council May spend up to \$90,000. This is 89,000*1 and then rounded up to the nearest ten thousand, which is 90,000.	IV		Albert Mata	Resident/Stakeholder
33	Withdrawn at the request of the City Secretary.	Edit language to state that city council members "shall take office on the first Wednesday following the 30th calendar day after the final canvass of the general election," rather than the first Monday.	III	1	City Secretary's Office	City Department
34	Withdrawn at the request of the City Secretary.	Delete language (strikethrough): "Each member of the city council shall, in addition to the other qualifications prescribed by law, be at the date of election a qualified voter of the city, and shall not be in arrears in the payment of any taxes or other liabilities due the city. (Amend. of 11-8-05, Prop. No. 13)"	III	3	City Secretary's Office	City Department

49	Withdrawn at the request of Commissioner Lowery.	Remove the following language: " (2) the municipal court clerk and the secretary of the civil service board; and <del>—(3) the labor class, which shall include all ordinary unskilled labor.</del> "	XVI	3	Terry Lowery	Commissioner
55	withdrawn at the 2/6 meeting in favor of amendments 114 and 115	(1) A committee of at least five registered voters of the City of Dallas must make application to the city secretary and file an intention to circulate a petition, giving the date and the proposed ordinance to be circulated. Unless the final petition, with the required number of signatures is returned within 120 days from this date, it will not be received for any purpose  (2) The petition must contain the names of a number of qualified voters in the city equal to the number of voters in the most recent citywide election for city council, as appears in the county election results.	XVIII	11	Albert Mata	Resident/Stakeholder
88	Withdrawn at the request of Mr. McAlister.	Decriminalize marijuana			Shaun McAlister	Resident/Stakeholder
98	Withdrawn at the request of Commissioner Campbell.	Strike Ch. 7 Sec. 3(9): " Advising the city council, the city manager, and all the departments of the city concerning new or proposed state or federal legislation and representing the city before all legislative bodies in matters affecting the city."	VII	3(9)	Stuart Campbell	Commissioner







Forum Proposed	Date	Category	Rationale	Previously Resulted in Litigation?	Better Served Through Code or Ordinance?	Considered previously?	Amendment Complete?
Email/Memo	10/9/23	Operational	a. Abolish JNC; council's ad hoc JN committee handles the whole process b. CAO to vet candidates and forward resumes for interview; candidates can appeal exclusion to council's ad hoc				
Email/Memo	10/18/23	Policy	RCV would avoid costly and inefficient runoff elections and would also allow Dallas voters to express their preferences more fairly.				
Online Form	10/25/23	Policy	Our current charter only prohibits residents from concurrently serving on official Boards and Commissions, this provision needs to be extended to all city committees and task forces as well.				
Online Form	11/17/23	Policy	In the past several months, the Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) have been notified about several City employees experiencing homelessness. These have all been lower pay level employees. OHS believes that this is another barrier that should be removed. Especially for our own city employees.				
Online Form	11/22/23	Policy	Minimize the influence of money on local elections.				
Email/Memo	11/29/23	Policy	This section is modified to avoid the inauguration date coinciding with the Juneteenth federal holiday.				
Email/Memo	11/29/23	Policy	This section is modified to comply with the Texas Attorney General ..... Opinion/Ruling				

Email/Memo	12/12/23	Operational	<p>The civil service rules were put in place to select and protect line staff – especially those lower skilled workers who might not have access to departmental decision-makers or city leadership, but whose skills and employment ensure the organization is able to meet its operational needs and requirements. By removing the limitations in Section 3(b)(3), the charter can better protect those types of city employees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describing the “labor class” as “unskilled labor” leaves out those laborers who are required to hold certificates or licenses to perform their functions – such as a truck driver who needs a CDL (commercial driver’s license) or a sanitation or water department employee who is required to have an environmental certification from TCEQ, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.</li> <li>• Removing this section also removes the two-level appeal limitation on the “labor class.” Right now, unclassified positions can only appeal to the two (2) levels directly above them. In a large department a front-line employee is likely to have several layers of supervisors and managers before reaching the level of a departmental executive, such as an assistant director or director, to grieve and appeal an adverse job determination or working conditions.</li> </ul>				
Online Form	12/15/23	Operational	<p>Improve the process by which citizens may petition their government, and effectuate change. The current process is too high of a hurdle for many grassroots level groups to influence change. Provide for a increase in direct democracy, which is good. Tying the amount of signatures needed to match the amount that voted for council in the last cycle means that citizen initiatives must at least match the "legitimacy" of the current council.</p>				
Email/Memo	1/17/24						
Online Form	1/18/24	Operational	<p>This is to streamline the legislative affairs efforts of the city. Currently, legislative efforts and responsibilities are split between CM and CAO, which causes confusion, ambiguities, and inefficiencies. This amendment would relieve the CAO of those duties and rest them solely with the CM.</p>				







Notes		






