

# **Proposal for Establishment of a Charter Review Committee**

## **Introduction**

The City of Killeen seeks to maintain a city charter that effectively reflects the values, needs, and laws governing our community. To ensure our City Charter remains a dynamic, legally compliant, and functional document, the establishment of a Charter Review Committee is proposed.

## **Background**

Cities across Texas periodically review their charters to ensure they align with current municipal needs and state laws. For example, cities like Austin and Houston convene charter review committees every few years, particularly before city council elections. These committees review, suggest, and oversee changes or amendments to the city charter.

## **Proposal**

### **1. Committee Purpose and Scope:**

- The Charter Review Committee will be tasked with conducting a thorough review of the existing City Charter of Killeen.
- It will identify necessary amendments or revisions to ensure the Charter meets current legal standards and effectively serves the city's operational and governance needs.
- The Committee will engage with the community to gather input and recommendations for changes, ensuring the Charter reflects the community's needs and values.

### **2. Committee Composition:**

- The Committee shall consist of nine members to ensure a manageable yet diverse group that can effectively represent various community perspectives.
- Members will be appointed based on a nomination process from the City Council. Each Council member, including the Mayor, will nominate one member.

### **3. Member Qualifications:**

- Nominees should have a background in law, government, business, or community service.

- Nominees must be residents of Killeen and remain non-partisan in matters related to city governance.

#### **4. Appointment Process:**

- Nominations will be presented and confirmed during regular City Council meetings.
- Each Council member will submit their nominee's name and qualifications in writing to the City Secretary at least one week prior to the Council meeting where appointments will be finalized.

#### **5. Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Review the entire City Charter to assess its relevance and effectiveness.
- Propose amendments or changes that reflect modern governance needs and legal standards.
- Prepare a report detailing recommended changes, the rationale for each change, and the potential impact on city operations and governance.
- Conduct public meetings to solicit feedback from the citizens of Killeen.

#### **6. Timeline:**

- The Committee will be established within 30 days following the approval of this proposal.
- A final report of recommendations must be submitted to the City Council within six months after the first committee meeting.

#### **7. Reporting:**

- The Committee will report its findings and recommendations directly to the City Council.
- Interim reports will be presented at regular intervals during the review process to ensure ongoing transparency and Council engagement.

#### **8. Dissolution:**

- The Committee will dissolve upon the completion of its duties and the submission of its final report, unless extended by a Council resolution.

### **Conclusion**

Establishing a Charter Review Committee will enable Killeen to ensure its charter remains a strong foundation for municipal governance. This initiative reflects our commitment to transparency, legal compliance, and community engagement.