



CHARTER AMENDMENTS

DS-21-108

August 17, 2021

Background

- On April 6, 2021, City Council discussed changing the monthly salary for City Council.
- Since Council salary is set by City Charter, staff advised that a change would require Council to call an election with specific ballot language.
- City Council directed that a Council-led Charter review be set for a 2022 municipal election date.

The City's Charter

- ❑ The Charter is the fundamental governing document of a home-rule city in Texas.
- ❑ The Charter may not be changed more often than every 2 years. The City's Charter was last amended in 2018.
- ❑ Amendments may be proposed by Council, citizen petition, or review committee.
- ❑ The Charter is amended by popular vote at an election.

Procedure for Charter Amendments

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- Review Charter and Prepare Amendments
- Draft Proposition language
 - An amendment may not contain more than one subject
- Call Special Election by ordinance
- Publish Legal Notice
 - 2 notices in the newspaper one week apart before the 14th day before the date of election (LGC 9.004 (c))
- Hold Election
- Council Order declaring that the amendment is adopted
- Certification of Amendment(s) to Secretary of State

Timeline for a May 2022 Election

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□ February 18, 2022

- ▣ Last day to call a May 2022 election via ordinance (include ballot language for each measure)

□ May 7, 2022

- ▣ Uniform Election Date

Options

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- Review the entire Charter section by section
- Review specific sections submitted by Council

Next Step

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- With feedback from Councilmembers, staff will prepare a timeline for charter review and begin the process.