



Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance Recommendations

Budget and Effectiveness Committee

JANUARY 6, 2020

Today's Agenda

- ◀ Review recommendations from Citizen Advisory Committee on Governance
- ◀ Review actions for considerations to be taken by City Council
- ◀ Next Steps

Summary of Recommendations

Proposed Recommendations	Action Needed if Approved by City Council
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four-year terms (CACG Vote 8-3) by way of referendum (Vote 7-4) • Staggered elections (Vote 10-1) • Two-term limit contingent on four-year terms (Vote 10-1) • Nonpartisan elections (Vote 6-5) • Add an eighth district representative and remove one at-large representative (Unanimous Vote) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council action; or 2. Subject to approval by the voters at a referendum 3. Term limit changes would require approval from NC General Assembly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase Mayor and City Council Compensation (Unanimous Vote) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase Mayor and City Council Compensation to be comparable to that of the Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners (Unanimous Vote) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council action; or 2. Subject to approval through Budget Adoption Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update policy guidelines to consider when redistricting 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council action

Recommendations from CAGC

◀Topic: Elected officials' terms of office and election method

Current status	Recommended update
1. Two-year terms	1. Four-year terms by way of referendum
2. No staggered elections	2. Staggered elections
3. No term limits	3. Two term limits contingent on four-year terms
4. Partisan election	4. Nonpartisan election

Considerations

- The Council may amend by ordinance subject to approval by the voters at a referendum
 - However, term limit adjustment requires legislative approval
- The Council may amend by ordinance without a referendum – however, 5,000 signatures on a petition filed within 30 days forces a referendum
- Budgetary implications to hold referendum

Recommendations from CAGC

◀Topic: Update City Council representatives

- *Recommendation: Update City Council representatives*

Current status	Recommended update
1. 12 total members of Mayor and City Council: a) 1 Mayor b) 11 City Council Members i. 4 At-Large ii. 7 District Representatives	1. 12 total members of Mayor and City Council: a) 1 Mayor b) 11 City Council Members i. 3 At-Large ii. 8 District Representatives

Considerations

- The Council may amend by ordinance subject to approval by the voters at a referendum
- The Council may amend by ordinance without a referendum – however, 5,000 signatures on a petition filed within 30 days forces a referendum
- Budgetary implications to hold referendum

Recommendations from CAGC

◀Topic: Elected officials' compensation

- *Recommendation: Increase Mayor and City Council Compensation (CLTCC) to be comparable to that of the Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)*
- *The below total compensation for the CLTCC and BOCC includes base salary and allowances. Other benefits are not included as they are provided per capita or are chosen by the individual.*

FY 21 CLTCC Total Compensation	FY 21 BOCC Total Compensation	CLTCC Recommended Update
1. Mayor: \$45,912	1. Board Chair: \$58,125	1. Mayor: \$58,125 (net difference of (\$12,213))
2. City Council: \$34,546	2. Commissioners: \$50,020	2. CC: \$50,020 (net difference of (\$15,474))

Recommendations from CAGC

◀Topic: Elected officials' compensation

- *Recommendation: Increase Mayor and City Council Compensation to be comparable to that of the Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners*

Considerations

- Budgetary implications – increase in personnel expenses to General Fund including estimated FICA
 - Total cost: \$196,386
 - Charlotte City Council: \$183,238
 - Charlotte Mayor: \$13,148
- City Council may change compensation rates subject to approval by Council vote
- Subject to approval through Budget Adoption Process

Recommendations from CAGC

◀Topic: Policy guidelines on Council districts

- *Recommendation: Update policy guidelines on Council districts*

Recommended update

- **Importance of the First Order (Highest)**
 - Districts must have substantially equal population (*Federal Requirement*).
 - Districts should be reasonably compact (Strongly recommend).
 - District boundaries may follow neighborhood boundaries or boundaries of areas containing residents sharing similar interests.
- **Importance of the Second Order**
 - When possible, districts should have relatively even partisan balance.
 - District boundaries may be drawn to create/maintain balance between major political parties.
 - District boundaries may follow precinct boundaries.
 - District boundaries may be drawn considering race of district residents as long as race is not the predominant motivating factor.
 - District(s) most likely impacted by future annexations may be smaller to minimize impact of future annexations and redistricting.
 - District boundaries may be drawn to avoid contests between incumbents.

Considerations

1. Need to consider 2020 Census results, available March 31, 2021.
2. Need to consider legal standards for re-districting.

Procedures to Change Form of Government

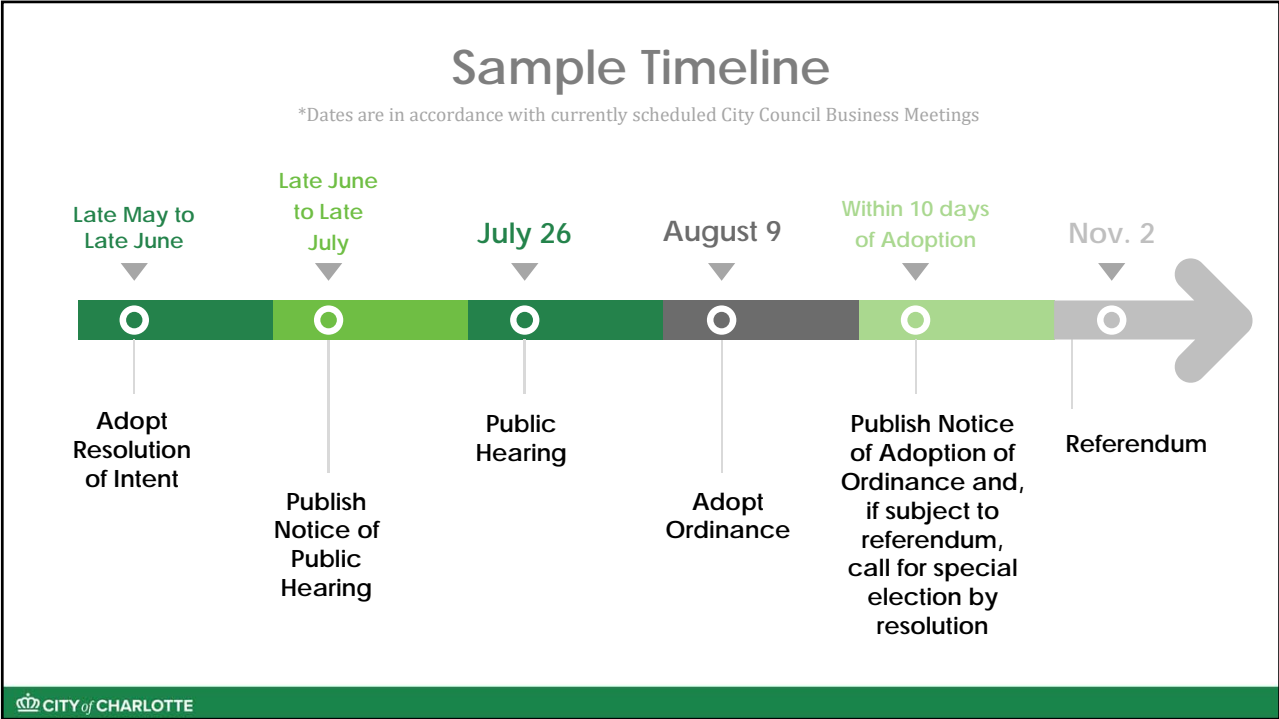
Process for change by City Council

- The Council adopts a resolution of intent and sets the date for a public hearing.
- The public hearing must be held at least 10 days after published notice and within 45 days of resolution.
- The Council must vote within 60 days of the public hearing but not before the next regular meeting.
- A notice of adoption of the ordinance must be published within 10 days after the adoption of the ordinance.
- If the ordinance is subject to a referendum, Council may, by resolution, call for a special election for the purpose of submitting the ordinance to a vote. The special election must be held at the next date permitted under G.S. 163-287(a) that is more than 70 days after the adoption of the ordinance.

Timetable to Adjust Form of Government

◀ Referendum at the November 2 General Election

- Late May to Late June – Resolution of Intent
- 10 days before hearing – Publish notice of Public Hearing
- Between Late June and Late July – Public Hearing
- August 9* - Adopt Ordinance
- Within 10 days of Adoption of Ordinance - Publication of Notice of Adoption of Ordinance / Resolution calling for special election
- November 2 – Referendum



Next Steps

- ◀ January 11-12, 2021 City Council Annual Summit
 - Budget and Effectiveness Committee Report Out to Full Council

Questions?