

CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL
CHARTER REVIEW
TOWN HALL MEETING



JUNE 14, 2012

CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL CHARTER REVIEW TOWN HALL MEETING

Welcome



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL CHARTER REVIEW TOWN HALL MEETING

Excerpts - Statement from Council President C. Ellen Connally – April 25, 2012

County Council:

- ✓ is doing this in 2012 for two reasons – cost and clarity
- ✓ solicited proposed changes from Council Members, from the Executive Administration, and from the Prosecutor's Office
- ✓ process is a limited one, focusing on topics that the Council and/or the administration believe are important and urgent enough for action now
- ✓ All of these proposed amendments will be fully heard by the Council and subject to final approval of the voters



OHIO STATE CONSTITUTION CHARTER AMENDMENT PROCESS

Q: *How does a charter amendment get on the ballot?*

1. Upon petition of 8% of the electors of the county
2. Upon the recommendation of a Charter Review commission and vote of the legislative body - *Charter Section 12.09 and Ohio Constitution Art. 10 Sec. 4*
3. By 2/3 vote of the legislative body - *Ohio Constitution Art. 10, sec. 4*



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL CHARTER AMENDMENT PROCESS

TO DATE

February 10th	Request for proposed charter amendment ideas
April 2 nd	Deadline for request submissions
April 24 th	Proposed Charter Amendments sent to committee
May 1 st	Committee Hearing – proposals 1, 6 & 7
May 8 th	Committee Hearing – proposals 5 & 10
May 15 th	Committee Hearing – proposals 4 & 8
May 22 nd	Committee Hearing – proposals 2, 3 & 9
May 29 th	Committee Hearings - Resolutions
June 12 th	1 st Reading of Council – Referral to C of W
June 14 th	County Council 1 st Town Hall Meeting



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL CHARTER AMENDMENT PROCESS

Where do we go from here?

June 26 th	Committee of the Whole
June 28 th	County Council 2 nd Town Hall Meeting – Shaker Heights
July 10 th	Committee of the Whole, if needed
July 24 th	2 nd Reading of Council
August 14 th	3 rd Reading of Council
August 27 th	Submission to the Board of Elections
September 7 th	Deadline for all submissions to the Board of Elections
November 6 th	Election Day



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #1
R2012-0103

Q: Shall the County Charter be amended to clarify the powers and duties of the County Executive with respect to employment actions and the jurisdiction of the County Executive and County appointing authorities with regard to employee transfers and layoffs?

Explanation: This amendment clarifies the County Executive's authority over employment actions for all County employees other than those serving County Council or the Prosecutor. Employment actions include hiring, promotion, and disciplinary actions such as suspension or termination.



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #2
R2012-0097

Q: Shall the County Charter be amended to align the provisions for filling vacancies for County Executive and for County Council with the primary election filing deadlines that are established by law?

Explanation: The proposed amendment says that the vacancy must occur 30 days before the filing deadline for the midterm election in order for the election to be used to fill the vacancy for the last two years. Otherwise, the temporary appointment extends until the end of the term. The amendment also says that a person elected for an unexpired term takes office on January 1 following the election, rather than immediately.



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #3
R2012-0098

- Q:** Shall the County Charter be amended clarify the powers and duties of the County Council with respect to Council's internal operations, the approval of contracts and contract amendments for the Council's office, the making of appointments and confirmation of appointments by the County Executive, the exercise of Council's investigatory powers, and the submission of charter amendments to the electors and to identify those actions requiring only the approval of Council?



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #3

R2012-0098 - *Continued*

Explanation: This proposed amendment lists those actions for which Council action is final, including:

1. Adoption or amendment to the rules and order of business of the Council.
2. Adoption of the schedule of council meetings, creation of committees, or other actions relating to Council's internal operations.
3. Adoption of the Council's office's organizational structure and setting of compensation for Council employees, consistent with the County's operating budget.



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #3
R2012-0098 - *Continued*

4. Approval of contracts or amendments to contracts for the internal operations of the Council, consistent with the County's operating budget.
5. Confirmation of appointments made by the Executive.
6. Making appointments designated in the Charter to be made by Council.



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #3
R2012-0098 - *Continued*

7. Exercise of the Council's powers to require the attendance of County employees at Council meetings and to compel the attendance of witnesses, issue subpoenas, and refer matters to the Prosecuting Attorney, as provided in the Charter.
8. Submission of amendments to the County Charter to the voters, consistent with the Ohio Constitution's provision that this requires approval only from the legislative authority.



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #4
R2012-0104

Q: Shall the County Charter be amended to consolidate the financial operations of the County by creating a Department of Finance and Operations under the direction of the Fiscal Officer that shall have responsibility for all matters now assigned by the Charter to the Fiscal Officer, Treasurer, and the Purchasing Department?

Explanation: The County Treasurer and Purchasing are proposed to be located within Finance and Operations, rather than being separate offices or departments. Purchasing is renamed "Procurement and Diversity," reflecting current practice. The appointments of the Treasurer and the leader of Procurement and Diversity are subject to Council confirmation.



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #5
R2012-0099

- Q:** Shall the County Charter be amended to establish the composition of the Board of Revision as consisting of the Cuyahoga County Executive, Fiscal Officer, and a member of Council, and to clarify the powers and duties of the Cuyahoga County Board of Revision, to distinguish between the powers and duties of the Board itself from those of Hearing Boards employed by the Board, to remove the political party affiliation from the Hearing Board requirements, and to provide that Hearing Board members have experience and proven ability in the areas of real estate appraisal, real estate and/or real estate law?



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #5
R2012-0099 - *continued*

Explanation: The board (of Revision) that hears appeals regarding the valuation of real property for tax purposes. Unlike existing Charter language, this amendment distinguishes between the *Board of Revision*, which is responsible for the administration of the property valuation appeals process, and the *Hearing Boards*, which hear the cases. The amendment specifies that the Board of Revision shall consist of the County Executive, the Fiscal Office, and one member of Council, appointed by the Council President.

...The political party affiliation requirement is eliminated, enabling hiring to be based totally on qualifications.



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #6
R2012-0100

Q: Shall the County Charter be amended to provide that the County Council shall have the exclusive authority to appoint and remove members of the Cuyahoga County Human Resources Commission?

Explanation: Under this amendment, Council, rather than the Executive, will appoint the members of the Human Resources Commission. Since the Commission's function is to hear grievances of employees serving in the Executive branch, having the members appointed by Council would provide a better checks and balance.



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Proposal #7
R2012-0102

Q: Shall the County Charter be amended to change the term of office of the appointed Director of Internal Auditing for Cuyahoga County so that it does not coincide with the term of the County Executive?

Explanation: Currently, the Charter provides no term for the two appointed members of the County Audit Committee. In addition, the Charter provides that the term of the Director of Internal Audit ends at the same time as the term of the County Executive.

The amendment provides a four-year term for appointed members of the County Audit Committee, ending one year after the end of the term of the County Executive, and provides that the term of the Director of Internal Audit shall end two years after the end of the term of the County Executive..



PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Items Referred to Charter Review Commission

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Proposal #7 | Request to clarify the role of the Human Resource Commission |
| Proposal #10 | Creation of the Agency of the Cuyahoga County Inspector General |

Item Withdrawn/eliminated

- | | |
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| Proposal #4 | Department of Purchasing – consolidated with Proposal #8 |
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CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

In September 2012, a Charter Review Commission will be convened to work throughout most of 2013. The Charter Review Commission has a broader mandate, one that involves reviewing the entire Charter for possible amendments. The Commission's process will also be public, with proposals to be presented for Council consideration in July 2013.

To apply: www.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/charter-review-commission.aspx



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Questions

