



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 1.

Agenda Date: August 1, 2024

In Control: City Council Special B Session

DEPARTMENT: City Attorney's Office

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Andy Segovia, City Attorney

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

City Council discussion regarding propositions that may be placed on a Charter amendment ballot for the November 2024 election.

SUMMARY:

City Council will discuss recommended amendments to the City Charter and propositions that may be placed the ballot for the November 5, 2024 election.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On November 14, 2023, Mayor Ron Nirenberg reconstituted and charged the Charter Review Commission to review the City Charter and identify areas for amendment in specific areas.

On June 5, 2024, the Charter Commission, chaired by Bonnie Prosser Elder and David Zammiello, presented their recommendations to City Council. Members of the Commission were Elva Pai Adams, Josh Baugh, Luisa Casso, Frank Garza, Mike Frisbie, Pat Frost, Martha Martinez-Flores, Naomi Miller, Bobby Perez, Shelley Potter, Dwayne Robinson, Dr. Rogelio Sáenz and María Salazar.

On July 15, 2024, Mayor Nirenberg suggested a B Session to reach further consensus on a framework for a subsequent A Session agenda item to include propositions that may be placed on a ballot for the November 2024 election. The following is an outline of the recommendations based on the last Council discussion:

- Proposition A: One ethics-related proposition that includes 1) a high-level definition of "conflicts of interest," 2) requires sufficient funding for the Ethics Review Board (ERB) to fulfill all duties, 3) removes term limits for ERB members, and 4) increases ERB discretion to refuse or accept complaints that have been otherwise resolved.
 - Proposition B: Revising the language of the Charter to account for outdated and superseded provisions.
 - Proposition C: Granting City Council the authority to set the full terms of the City Manager's employment including tenure and compensation.
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- Proposition D: Removing the prohibition on municipal political activity for City employees, explicitly defining clauses to protect employees against political retribution and maintaining the municipal political activity prohibition for City executives.
- Proposition E: Setting the compensation for a City Council member to \$58,000 annually and the compensation of the mayor to \$73,000 annually, with annual adjustments correlated to the City of San Antonio household's area median income as defined by the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey.
- Proposition F: Restructuring City Council's service to two four-year terms, maintaining the current term limit of eight years (Note: Potential changes to the Charter will ensure that no current Council member will be limited to less than eight years of potential service by the shift to four-year terms).

The deadline for placing the propositions on the ballot for the November election is Monday, August 19, 2024. Therefore, any A Session item will be scheduled for August 8, 2024.

ISSUE:

The City Council will discuss possible Propositions for amendments to the Charter to be placed on a ballot at the November 5, 2024 election.

ALTERNATIVES:

NA

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is for briefing purposes only.