



Office of the City Clerk

Charter Study Task Force Presentation of Final Report

**Ken Chawkins, Chair
Marcus Hatcher, Vice Chair**

Special Item A - June 10, 2024





CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Office of the City Clerk

Ken Chawkins – Chair, District 6
Marcus D. Hatcher – Vice Chair, District 3
Vince Farhat – Mayoral
Diana Carbajal Mejia – At Large
Raul Francisco Salinas – At Large
Lena Louise Kennedy – District 1
Margaret McAustin – District 2
Paul A. Novak – District 4
Liberty McCoy – District 5
Andy Wilson – District 7



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE SCHEDULE

Office of the City Clerk

- ✓ • **December 9, 2023**
- ✓ • **January 20, 2024**
- ✓ • **February 7, 2024**
- ✓ • **February 22, 2024**
- ✓ • **March 14, 2024**
- ✓ • **March 28, 2024**
- ✓ • **April 11, 2024***
- ✓ • **April 25, 2024**
- ✓ • **May 9, 2024***
- ✓ • **May 23, 2024**
- **June 10, 2024 – Final Report to City Council**
- **June/July – City Council Deliberations**

*April 11 (Robinson Park Community Center)

*May 9 (H&H Jivalagian Youth Center)

All meetings – Hybrid format: in-person and virtually



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE TOPICS IN SCOPE

Office of the City Clerk

- **City Council Vacancy Appointment Process**
- **Vacancy of Mayor – Role of Vice Mayor**
- **Vice Mayor Appointment Process**
- **Mayor and City Council Term Limits**
- **Timing of Mayoral Election**
- **City Council Compensation**
- **Campaign Contribution Limits**



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

Recommendations for City Council Consideration:

- **City Council Vacancy Appointment Process and Special Elections**
- **Vice Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore**
- **Mayor and City Council Term Limits**
- **Timing of Mayoral Election**
- **Campaign Contribution Limits**
- **City Council Compensation**
- **Additional Recommendations**



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

Council Vacancy Appointments Issue:

- **City Council Vacancy Appointment Process**
 - Less than two years remain on unexpired term
 - Council appointment within 75 days
 - Six-month residency requirement for appointments
 - “Death” as a cause of vacancy
- **Mandatory Special Election**
 - More than two years remaining on unexpired term; or
 - Council fails to appoint within 75 days (in lieu of “chosen by lot”)



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

Vice Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore:

- **Vice Mayor**

- **Changes Council Organizational Meeting to occur every December**
- **Vice Mayor elected annually at the Organizational Meeting**
- **One-year term**
- **Vice Mayor assumes duties in Mayor's absence**

- **Mayor Pro Tempore**

- **Creates new position in the Charter**
- **Selected only if a vacancy occurs in the Mayor's seat; from among remaining Councilmembers**
- **Assumes duties of Mayor (without relinquishing District seat)**
- **Serves until seat filled at the next General Election**



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

Mayor and City Council Term Limits:

- **Council Term Limits (applies after January 1, 2025)**
 - No more than three consecutive terms
 - At least four-year hiatus, then two additional terms
 - No more than five terms in the seat
 - Partial elected term of two-years or more counts towards term limit
- **Mayor (applies after January 1, 2025)**
 - No more than three consecutive terms
 - At least four-year hiatus, then two additional terms
 - No more than five terms in the seat
 - Partial elected term of two years counts towards term limit



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

Timing of Mayoral Election:

- **No changes recommended by Task Force**



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

Campaign Contribution Limits:

- **Contribution Limits Set by Ordinance**
 - **Mayoral candidates - \$2,500 per person/entity, per election**
 - **Council District candidates - \$1,000 per person/entity, per election**
 - **Subject to City Attorney's Office establishing a framework for enforcement**
- **Charter Amendment Related to Contribution Limits**
 - **Charter Amendment to restrict changes to ordinance**
 - **Adjustments to contribution limits to occur no more than once every two election cycles, after enactment or amendment of ordinance**



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

Council Compensation Committee:

- **Convene the Council Compensation Committee as soon as possible**
- **Recommend amending the Charter to require the Council Compensation Committee convene no less than once every five years**



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

Additional Task Force Recommendations:

- **Vacancy**: Establish appointment process by ordinance, include robust public outreach and engagement
- **Vice Mayor**: Selection to consider seniority and rotational participation (though not required)
- **Term Limits**: Establish on-boarding process for new Councilmembers; and implement a Council-driven public information process on running for public office
- **Compensation**: Family Care, CPI Increases to allowances and reimbursements, and review reimbursement processes



Questions/Comments

Office of the City Clerk





CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE NEXT STEPS ON RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

- **June 10, 2024:**
 - Questions for Chair and Vice Chair
 - Receive and File the report
 - Provide direction to City staff on next steps
- **July 8, 2024:**
 - In-depth review of Task Force recommendations:
 - Review language changes to the Charter; consider any additional details and specifics to add
 - Direction on administrative recommendations (i.e., ordinances, Council Compensation Committee, etc.)
 - Determine whether any, some, or all recommendations on Charter Amendments should be submitted to voters
 - **Direction to staff:** Prepare election resolutions; further discussion; or other direction



CHARTER STUDY TASK FORCE

NEXT STEPS ON RECOMMENDATIONS

Office of the City Clerk

- **July 22, 2024:**
 - Review total number of City ballot measures
 - Review election resolutions and ballot questions
 - Consider ballot measure arguments – AB 1416
 - Consider preparation of a Supplemental Voter Information Pamphlet to send to November General Election voters
- **August 9, 2024:**
 - Last Day for Ballot Measures to be Submitted to Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (88th Day)
- **Other Considerations:**
 - Changes to next steps, adjustments to proposed timeline (deadline cannot be changed)
 - Totality of ballot measures (Local, County, and State)