

Charter Revision Commission Topics

- A. Preserving Institutional Knowledge in Public Officials
 - Making the Council President an elected position holding office for 4 years on a term that is staggered with the Mayor's term
 - Non-partisan elections, changing the term of the Council election to give CMs more time in the position before handling the budget
 - Extending term limits (years or number of terms)
 - Rank voting, no 2nd election, changing inauguration allowing more time before budget
 - Assessing the function of OGC including possibly implementing staggered terms for the GC
 - Review election dates and consider changes to assure Council members are elected to provide maximum time in office before budget submitted by Mayor.

- B. Office of General Counsel
 - Selection process (3 Former General Counsels make a final recommendation on hiring of a new General Counsel)
 - Selection process be changed to committee is made up of entities/people of the city and not all attorneys.
 - Assessing the function of OGC including possibly implementing staggered terms for the GC
 - Options for authorities and government agencies for legal services beyond the OGC
 - Assistant General Counsel for Mayor's office, preserving independency of OGC for dispute resolution
 - 2 year term with 2 terms off before eligible for reapportionment
 - Modify Article VII of Charter to:
 - (a) Change appointment process to include a nominating committee composed of a nominee of the City Council and Mayor, independent agencies, constitutional officers, the School Board and a past General Council appointed by the President of the City Council.
 - (b) Limit term of General Counsel
 - (c) Limit and/or provide review of "binding opinion"
 - (d) Restructure to assure confidence in fairness, integrity of office. (Possibly require assignment of an assistant General Counsel to each of the agencies, constitutional officers and School Board with the General Counsel unassigned and "independent".)

- C. Revive Urban Services District
 - Urban Core Investment Authority
 - Fulfilling promises of Consolidation
 - Infrastructure

- D. Dedicated funding for the Health Department
 - Technology and Health Concerns

- E. Duval County School Board
 - Elected superintendent
 - At Large School Board members
 - School Safety Officers
 - Expressly recognize the Florida State Constitution establishment of uniform statewide Education Systems (Art. IX). Amend Charter Article XIII to reflect that the education systems is part of uniform system of state governance and that the State Constitution and all general laws of the State of Florida control and are in full force and effect.

- F. Ethics
 - Focus on appointed positions, particularly board appointments (Invite area experts from Universities as guest speakers –
 - Focus on financial disclosures from Senior Administration staff
 - Establishing a grace period before former city employees can come back to lobby the city
 - Campaign financing
 - Functions of Ethics, Council Auditor, and Inspector General
 - Conflicts of Interest

- G. City-Wide Strategic Planning
 - Have the Administration meet with community leaders either quarterly or bi-annually to discuss issues and coordinate efforts
 - Functions of independent authorities with Consolidated Government
 - Function of non-profits with Consolidated Government
 - Building on City Council Strategic Plan
 - Establish a Strategic Planning Commission that convenes every 5 years and establishes a comprehensive Strategic Plan for the City and its officers and agencies with timed deliverables and quantitative metrics that transcend mayoral 4-year terms. Provide an appointment process for Commission; mandatory activities and deadlines; mandatory cooperation and collaboration in developing and implementing plan by all officers and agencies of City; staffing and funding, etc.
 - Prioritize waterways and access
 - Septic tanks
 - Fulfilling promises of Consolidation
 - Infrastructure

- H. Government Structure
 - Balance to a “strong mayor” form of government
 - City Council creates its own budget
 - Strengthening of Kids Hope Alliance
 - Standing Committee to ensure City Council is taking care of all priorities and budget items
 - Should City Council Members be part-time or does the amount of members need to be less

- Make it harder for city council to raise taxes by mandating 2/3 approval to raise property taxes
- For all independent authorities that enter into any real estate, sales and transactions or agreements of any assets or functions over a certain numerical threshold (maybe 10 million) would be subject to city council approval.
- Review election dates and consider changes to assure Council members are elected to provide maximum time in office before budget submitted by Mayor.
- Review role of Council in budget process to provide greater input and power relative to establishing budget.
- Other steps that may increase Council's ability to better balance the "Strong Mayor".
- Consolidation of Law Enforcement & Safety
- Non-partisan elections
- Fulfilling promises of Consolidation
- Include citizen advisory boards, i.e. SHADCO/Sherriff's Watch & CPAC in the charter

I. State Uniform Judicial System

- Expressly recognize the Florida State Constitution establishment of uniform statewide Judicial (Art. V) System. Amend Charter Article XII to reflect that the judiciary system is part of uniform system of state governance and that the State Constitution and all general laws of the State of Florida control and are in full force and effect.

• Chair

- Charter Revision Commission
 - Put into Charter
 - Require action on report items (Council or voters)
 - Appointment earlier in Council President term
- Assessing defunct authorities (Provide a list of defunct authorities)
- Clean Up & "one-offs"
- Remove Hospital Authority