

November 5, 2019

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: CITY ATTORNEY

SUBJECT: **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMPTON ESTABLISHING A CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF COMPTON**

SUMMARY

City Council members have requested that a resolution be brought forth for City Council consideration and approval which will establish a Charter Review Committee for the City of Compton to formulate and present recommended Charter amendments to the City Council.

BACKGROUND

Article XI, Section 3 of the California Constitution empowers a city, for its own government, to adopt, amend, revise or repeal a charter by majority vote of its electors. The City of Compton was incorporated as a charter city on May 11, 1888. The City's Charter was last amended in 2012.

The City Council desires to establish a City Charter Review Committee to evaluate existing City Charter provisions and recommend any proposed amendments to the City Council for consideration as a ballot measure(s) in the 2020 statewide general election. The City Council has requested that the City Attorney prepare a resolution that would establish a Charter Review Committee, the appointment, qualifications and jurisdiction of the Committee and its members, in addition to other pertinent matters.

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE

The primary purpose and responsibilities of the Charter Review Committee will include to: (1) hold public meetings to receive input on proposed Charter amendments; and, (2) present a formal written report, with its recommendations as to which, if any, Charter amendments should be considered for placement before the City's electorate, to the City Council for review, discussion and consideration.

The Charter Review Committee will be an advisory body to the City Council solely created for the purpose of reviewing the City Charter and recommending proposed Charter amendments to the City Council. The City Council would retain discretion to modify, reject or approve any Committee recommendations and to propose additional Charter amendments.

In summary, the attached proposed resolution will establish a Charter Review Committee with the following (not exclusive) provisions:

- Consist of eleven (11) voting members, two (2) appointed by each Council member and three (3) appointed by the Mayor
- Establish qualifications for membership
- Specify the Committee’s purpose and jurisdiction
- Identify deadline for presentation of the Committee’s recommendations and final report to the City Council and the termination of the Committee’s existence

The City Manager shall appoint a City staff person who shall keep a record of the Committee proceedings and transactions and the City Attorney, or his designee, shall serve as the Legal Advisor to the Charter Review Committee.

Staff has also prepared the attached draft timeline for the Charter reviewing process, commencing with consideration and adoption of this resolution, appointment of members to the Charter Review Committee to formulate and present recommended Charter amendment(s) to the City Council, and the calling of an election on November 3, 2020 (i.e. statewide general election date for year 2020). Any voter approved Charter amendments would become effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

FISCAL IMPACT

The financial impact to provide staff support are predicted to be minimal and will be absorbed by affected Department budgets. If proposed Charter amendments are ultimately referred to the voters, the City will incur costs associated with the City of Compton’s election expenses. Stipends are not authorized for service on this Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

No recommendation is offered by staff. Resolution presented for consideration and adoption pursuant to request of Council members.

**DAMON M. BROWN
CITY ATTORNEY**

APPROVED FOR FORWARDING

**CRAIG J. CORNWELL
CITY MANAGER**

Attachmts: Proposed Resolution
 Draft Timeline