

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Tom Paulino, Liaison to the Board of Supervisors, Mayor's Office
Anne Pearson, Deputy City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney
John Arntz, Director, Department of Elections
LeeAnn Pelham, Executive Director, Ethics Commission

FROM: Victor Young, Assistant Clerk, Rules Committee *Victor Young*
Board of Supervisors

DATE: July 1, 2022

SUBJECT: CHARTER AMENDMENT INTRODUCED
November 8, 2022 Election

The Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee has received following Charter Amendment for the November 8, 2022, Election. This matter is being **referred** to you in accordance with Rules of Order 2.22.4.

File No. 220638 Charter Amendment - City Elections in Even-Numbered Years

Charter Amendment (Second Draft) to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco to change the election cycle for the offices of Mayor, Sheriff, District Attorney, City Attorney and Treasurer so that these offices will be elected in even-numbered years; to provide that the current term for the aforementioned offices will end on January 8, 2025 rather than January 8, 2024; to amend the definition of general municipal election so that such elections occur only in even-numbered years; and to change the signature threshold for initiative ordinances to two percent of the number of registered voters in San Francisco; at an election to be held on November 8, 2022.

Please review and submit any reports or comments you wish to be included with the legislative file.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (415) 554-7723 or email: victor.young@sfgov.org. To submit documentation, please forward to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102.

c: Andres Power, Mayor's Office

Patrick Ford, Ethics Commission
Michael Canning, Ethics Commission

1 [Charter Amendment - City Elections In Even-Numbered Years]

2
3 **Describing and setting forth a proposal to the voters at an election to be held on November**
4 **8, 2022, to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco to change the**
5 **election cycle for the offices of Mayor, Sheriff, District Attorney, City Attorney and**
6 **Treasurer so that these offices will be elected in even-numbered years; to provide that the**
7 **current term for the aforementioned offices will end on January 8, 2025 rather than**
8 **January 8, 2024; to amend the definition of general municipal election so that such**
9 **elections occur only in even-numbered years; and to change the signature threshold for**
10 **initiative ordinances to two percent of the number of registered voters in San Francisco.**

11
12 Section 1. The Board of Supervisors hereby submits to the qualified voters of the City
13 and County, at an election to be held on November 8, 2022, a proposal to amend the Charter of
14 the City and County by revising Sections 13.101, 14.101, and Article XVII, to read as follows:

15 NOTE: **Unchanged Charter text and uncodified text** are in plain font.
16 **Additions** are *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.
17 **Deletions** are ~~*strike-through italics Times New Roman font*~~.
18 **Asterisks (* * * *)** indicate the omission of unchanged Charter
19 subsections.

18
19 **SEC. 13.101. TERMS OF ELECTIVE OFFICE.**

20 (a) Except in the case of an appointment or election to fill a vacancy, the term of office
21 of each elected officer shall commence at ~~12:00~~ noon on the eighth day of January following the
22 date of the election.

23 (b) Subject to the applicable provisions of Section 13.102, the elected officers of the City
24 and County, and members of the Board of Education and of the Governing Body of the
25 Community College District, shall be elected as follows:

1 (1) ~~At the general municipal election in 1995 and every fourth year thereafter, a~~
2 The following officials shall be elected at the general municipal election in 2024 and every
3 fourth year thereafter: Mayor, ~~a~~ Sheriff, ~~and a~~ District Attorney ~~shall be elected.~~ City Attorney,
4 Treasurer, four members of the Board of Education, and four members of the Governing Board
5 of the Community College District.

6 ~~(2) At the general municipal election in 1996 and every fourth year thereafter,~~
7 ~~four members of the Board of Education and four members of the Governing Board of the~~
8 ~~Community College District shall be elected.~~

9 ~~(3) At the general municipal election in 2013, and at the general municipal~~
10 ~~election in 2015 and every fourth year thereafter, a City Attorney and a Treasurer shall be~~
11 ~~elected. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter including Section 6.100, the term of~~
12 ~~office for the person elected City Attorney or Treasurer at the general municipal election in 2013~~
13 ~~shall be two years.~~

14 (42) The following officials shall be elected at the general municipal election in
15 2022 and every fourth year thereafter: ~~At the general municipal election in 2006 and every fourth~~
16 ~~year thereafter, an~~ Assessor-Recorder, ~~and~~ Public Defender ~~shall be elected,~~ three members of
17 the Board of Education, and three members of the Governing Board of the Community College
18 District.

19 ~~(5) At the general municipal election in 1998 and every fourth year thereafter,~~
20 ~~three members of the Board of Education and three members of the Governing Board of the~~
21 ~~Community College District shall be elected.~~

22 (63) The election and terms of office of members of the Board of Supervisors
23 shall be governed by Section 13.110.

24 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter, including Section 3.101, the
25 term of office for Mayor, City Attorney, District Attorney, Sheriff, and Treasurer that began at

1 noon on January 8, 2020 shall end at noon on January 8, 2025. This five-year term for the office
2 of Mayor shall be deemed a single term for the purposes of term limits under Section 3.101.

3
4 **SEC. 14.101. INITIATIVES.**

5 An initiative may be proposed by presenting to the Director of Elections a petition
6 containing the initiative and signed by voters in a number equal to at least ~~five~~ two percent of the
7 number of registered voters in the City and County ~~votes cast for all candidates for mayor in the~~
8 ~~last preceding general municipal election for Mayor~~. Such initiative shall be submitted to the
9 voters by the Director of Elections upon certification of the sufficiency of the petition's
10 signatures.

11 * * * *

12
13 **ARTICLE XVII: DEFINITIONS**

14 For all purposes of this Charter, the following terms shall have the meanings specified
15 below:

16 * * * *

17 "General municipal election" shall mean the election for local officials or measures to be
18 held in the City and County on the Tuesday immediately following the first Monday in
19 November in every year until and including ~~2022~~15. Thereafter, "general municipal election"
20 shall mean the election for local officials or measures to be held in the City and County on the

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24 ///

1 Tuesday immediately following the first Monday in November in all even-numbered years *and*
2 *in every fourth year following 2015.*

3 * * * *

4 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
5 DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

6 By: /s/Ana Flores
7 ANA FLORES
8 Deputy City Attorney

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