City of Santa Rosa



Legislation Details

File #: 21-0690 Version: 1 Name: Charter Review Report

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File created: 7/9/2021 In control: City Council
On agenda: 8/17/2021 Final action: 8/17/2021

Title: REPORT - CHARTER REVIEW - ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE,

PROCESS AND ISSUES FOR 2022 CHARTER REVIEW

BACKGROUND: The City of Santa Rosa is a Charter City formed pursuant to the provisions of the California Constitution. The City's Charter provides the fundamental framework for the City's governance. It is, in essence, the City's "constitution." The City Charter is subject to periodic review for possible revision or refinement. Any proposed amendments to the City Charter are subject to approval by the City's voters.

Section 12 of the City Charter requires review of the Charter not less than every 10 years, with the review to be conducted by a committee to be appointed by the City Council. The last Charter review began in 2011 and resulted in proposed revisions placed on the November 2012 ballot. In accordance with Section 12, the City Council has directed that a new Charter review begin this fall.

On June 8, 2021, and again on August 3, 2021, the Council held study sessions to consider the timing, process and scope of the Charter review. Council gave direction to the City Attorney to move forward with Charter review and asked staff to return to the Council on August 17th for formal action to establish the Charter Review Committee and to set forth the process and issues for Charter review in accordance with the Council's direction.

RECOMMENDATION: In accordance with Council direction, it is recommended by the City Attorney that the Council, by resolution: 1) direct that a Charter Review Committee be formed, comprised of 21 city residents, with each Council Member appointing three members to the Committee; 2) establish a method for appointment of the Chair of the Committee; 3) direct that the Committee commence its work as soon as feasible; 4) identify topics to be included for the Committee's consideration; and 5) make such other recommendations regarding the Charter review process as the Council deems appropriate.

Sponsors:

Indexes: Not a Project

Code sections: 15378 - Not a Project

Attachments: 1. Staff Report, 2. Attachment 1 - City Charter, 3. Resolution, 4. Exhibit A - Charter Committee Items

to Review, 5. Exhibit A - REDLINE - Chart Committee Items REVISED BY COUNCIL, 6. Exhibit A -

FINAL Chart Committee Items REVISED BY COUNCIL, 7. Presentation

DateVer.Action ByActionResult8/17/20211City Councilto waive reading of the text and adopt as amendedPass amended8/17/20211City Councilto waive reading of the text and adopt as amendedPass amended