



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www. CityofSacramento.org

Progress Report
August 25, 2009

**Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council**

Title: Charter Review Committee Progress Report

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: This report transmits the August Charter Review Committee Progress Report as required by Council Resolution R2009-095.

Contact/Presenter: William H. Edgar, Chair, Charter Review Committee, (916) 392-4909

Respectfully Submitted by: William H. Edgar *WB*
William H. Edgar, Chair
2009 Sacramento Charter Review Committee

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BACKGROUND

Introduction

On February 17, 2009, the Sacramento City Council unanimously adopted Resolution R2009-095 which created the 2009 Sacramento Charter Review Committee. The Committee was established as an advisory body to the City Council and directed to review the current City Charter and make recommendations for possible amendments.

Resolution R2009-095 requires the Committee to provide the City Council progress reports. The Committee's previous Progress Report was presented to the City Council on June 23, 2009.

Meetings to Date

A short summary of each Committee meeting conducted to date is provided below.

April 2, 2009

- Introduction of Committee Members and Staff
- Brown Act Orientation
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Meeting Calendar

April 20, 2009

- Selection of Chair/Vice Chair
- Review of the City Charter
- Review of City's Governance Structure
- Review of Strong Mayor (Mayor-Council) Proposal
- Work Plan Discussion

May 7, 2009

- Committee Meeting Topics/Speakers
- Strategies For Receiving Information
- Decision Making Process

May 18, 2009

- Panel Discussion – Governance/Budget Process (Academic Focus)
 - Raphael Sonenshein, Ph.D., CSU Fullerton
 - James Svara, Ph.D., Arizona State University
 - Robert Waste, Ph.D., CSU Sacramento
- Updated Work Plan
- Public Outreach Plan

June 4, 2009

- Panel Discussion – Governance/Budget Process (Practitioner Focus)
 - Henry Gardner, Executive Director, Association of Bay Area Governments
 - Gerald Newfarmer, CEO and President, Management Partners, Inc.
 - Daniel Whitehurst, Former Mayor, City of Fresno
- Public Outreach Plan
- Resource/Reference Materials

June 15, 2009

- Panel Discussion – Governance/Budget Process (Budget Practitioner Focus)
 - Russell Fehr, City Treasurer, City of Sacramento
 - Jay Goldstone, Chief Operating Officer, City of San Diego
 - Matthew Hymel, County Administrator, County of Marin
- Format/Materials for Community Meetings

July 2, 2009

- Presentation by National Civic League (Derek Okubo, Senior Vice President)
- Presentation by International City/County Management Association (Dave Mora, West Coast Regional Director)
- Background: Current Election Process (Stephanie Mizuno, Assistant City Clerk)
- Background: Current County Election Process (Jill LaVine, Sacramento County Registrar of Voters)

July 20, 2009

- Presentation by New America Foundation (Blair Bobier, Deputy Director of Political Reform) on Ranked Choice Voting and Proportional Representation
- Review of July Outreach Meetings
- Decision Making Format/Process

August 3, 2009

- Discussion of Mayor-Council Form of Government
 - Martin J. Chavez, Mayor, City of Albuquerque
 - Jim Patterson, Former Mayor, City of Fresno
- Suggestions for Miscellaneous Charter Updates and Clean-Up
- Update on Community Outreach

August 17, 2009

- Committee Discussion Regarding Governance Structure and related topics
- Community Outreach Efforts
- Revised Committee Workplan/Timeline

Work Plan

In response to the City Council's direction on August 6, 2009 the Committee has revised its workplan and schedule to provide a final report to the City Council on Governance, Budget, Appointment Authority, Veto and Term Limits on November 3, 2009 and two supplemental reports in December and January 2010 to address the issues of Full Time

Mayor, Full Time Council, Ethics Commission and the Elections Process. This revised schedule includes a series of community meetings during late September through early October to solicit feed back on the Committee's draft final report to be presented in November.

Outreach

During July 2009, the Committee provided outreach at four neighborhood area group community meetings located in different areas of the City. The focus of the Committee's July outreach was to provide background information on the Committee's charge and timeline, the City's Charter, and ways to become actively involved in the Committee's activities. Approximately 200 people representing neighborhood groups and associations attended these meetings. An informational brochure explaining the Charter Review Committee and process was distributed at these meetings and can be accessed on the Committee's website. Staff from the Neighborhood Services Department are assisting with identifying dates and locations for community meetings the weeks of September 22-October 9 in order to provide information and obtain feedback on the Committee's draft final report regarding Governance, Budget, Appointment Authority, Veto and Term Limits.

Tentative Decision Making

The Committee began its Tentative Decision Making efforts on August 3, 2009 and spent a significant amount of time during its August 17, 2009 meeting discussing governance structure related issues. This effort will continue through September as the Committee refines its recommendations.

Final Decision Making/Report Writing

The Final Decision Making/Report Writing will begin after the Committee's September 3, 2009 meeting. The Committee will discuss and adopt final recommendations by October 12, 2009 following the community meetings and will approve a Final Report by October 19, 2009 to be presented to the City Council on November 3, 2009. A first supplemental report with recommendations regarding the issues of Full Time Mayor, Full Time Council, Ethics Commission will be presented to City Council on December 1, 2009 and a second supplemental report regarding the Elections Process including ranked choice voting, instant run-off voting and proportional representation will be presented to City Council on January 19, 2010.

SACRAMENTO CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

REVISED MEETING SCHEDULE AND TOPIC*

2009/10

All meetings are scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

AUGUST

Tuesday, August 25

- Progress Report to City Council

SEPTEMBER

Thursday, September 3rd

- Decision Making—Governance/Budget/
Appointment Authority/Veto/Term Limits

Monday, September 21st

- Review Draft Report

September 22nd - October 9th

- Community Outreach Meetings

OCTOBER

Thursday, October 1st

- Review of Preliminary Public Comments

October 6-13

(One additional meeting to be determined)

- Review of Public Outreach Results
- Discussion/Final Recommendations

Monday, October 19th

- Committee Approval of Final Report on
Governance/Budget/Appointment Authority/
Veto/Term Limits

NOVEMBER

Tuesday, November 3rd

- **Present Final Report to City Council on
Governance/Budget/Appointment
Authority/Veto/Term/Limits**

Thursday, November 5th

- Full Time Mayor/Full Time Council/Ethics
Commission

Monday, November 16th

- Decision Making —Full Time Mayor/Full Time
Council/Ethics Commission

Week of November 23rd

(Special meeting if required)

- Committee Approval of First Supplement
Report on Full Time Mayor/Full Time Council/
Ethics Commission

DECEMBER

Tuesday, December 1st

- **Present First Supplemental Report to City
Council on Full Time Mayor/Full Time
Council/Ethics Commission**

Thursday, December 3rd

- Elections Process (Ranked choice voting,
instant run-off voting, proportional
representation)

Monday, December 14th

- Decision Making—Election Process (Ranked
choice voting, instant run-off voting,
proportional representation)

JANUARY 2010

Thursday, January 7th

- Committee Approval of Second Supplemental
Report on Elections Process (Ranked choice
voting, instant run-off voting, proportional
representation)

Tuesday, January 19th

- **Present Second Supplemental Report to
City Council on Elections Process (Ranked
choice voting, instant run-off voting,
proportional representation)**

