

Ballot Title

CAPTION

Amends Charter: Updates authority to manage parks, sewers and stormwaters.

QUESTION

Shall Charter be amended to update City authority regarding recreational and natural areas (defined), sewers and stormwaters?

SUMMARY

Charter Commission proposed measure to update City authority, last amended in 1966, to manage recreational and natural areas, sewers and stormwaters.

If measure passes:

- Charter Section 12-101, describing parks management, would add “recreational and natural areas” as defined term to mean parks, playgrounds, forests, wetlands and human-built, natural facilities. Remaining language would be streamlined.
- A section would be added to City’s specific powers in Charter Section 2-105(a) clarifying that City may perform sewer, stormwater management – including protecting, restoring, remediating, altering, improving, expanding, filling, grading, or managing flow –in channels, riparian areas, floodplains, waterfronts, lakes, ponds, wetlands, other waters, natural systems, constructed equivalents.
- Charter Section 11-301 would be amended to clarify that storm drainage may use natural systems, constructed equivalents.
- Charter Section 11-302 would be amended to streamline language, last updated in 1970, related to service charges deposited into Sewage Disposal Fund. Charter will continue to require Council to spend Fund only on uses “reasonably related” to sewage, stormwater conveyance, disposal and purification.

Other provisions.

City Budget Office determined measure has no direct financial impact.