

# PORTLAND CHARTER COMMISSION

## PUBLIC COMMENT REPORT

Date range: March 18 to March 29, 2022.

From March 18 through March 29, at 8:00 a.m., **76 public comments** were submitted through the online public comment form and via email. 44 out of the 76 comments were made on behalf of a community-based organization. To date, we've received 1,210 public comments.

**Raw public comments received from March 18 to March 29, 2022. Attachments are included at the end.**

Dear Charter Commissioners,

I'm writing to urge you to prioritize environmental justice and climate action in the Charter Review process. Our city is facing overlapping and intersecting challenges -- from the high rates of poverty and homelessness, to deep racial injustice, to the worsening effects of the climate crisis. These challenges hit hardest in communities still reeling from the pandemic, who are already more vulnerable to extreme weather events and involuntary displacement. The Charter Review is a once-in-a-decade chance to comprehensively address the most pressing issues facing our city—without leaving anyone behind. As you make your considerations for Phase II of the Charter Review, I urge you to establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance.

Environmental justice is a framework that can enable our city to rise to meet this moment to correct system problems that worsen inequities that have burdened the city and have prevented its progress to become a city that works for all Portlanders

[Share a little bit about why the charter/these reforms matter to you and/or your community specifically, or more specific changes you'd like to see - more talking points below! Delete this sentence if you don't want to personalize]

Many cities and states are now moving quickly to establish stronger environmental rights and protections for their residents, to create new offices or structures to address the climate crisis and its implications at a systemic level, to ensure that their most vulnerable constituents aren't bearing the greatest health and economic burdens of climate adaptation in the form of energy bills, hazardous living conditions, and more. Because of the severity and wide ranging and complex problems that the climate crisis involves, gathering a Sub-committee composed of community experts that can inform and contribute to policy solutions is critical to addressing these issues in the City's charter.

The climate crisis is here, and we are running out of time to prevent catastrophic levels of warming and to begin the critical work of adapting to a hotter, drier, and less predictable world. Portland is trailing behind on this front, and we cannot afford to wait until 2032 to take action. Cities such as New York, Baltimore and Honolulu, and San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and Houston have already included specific charter language such as green amendments to move their municipal governments towards solutions to address climate change and tackle the problem from many angles. Portland's Charter Commission must take this once-in-a-decade chance to prepare our City and our most impacted communities to adapt and thrive through the challenges to come.

Please establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your ongoing work towards building a more equitable and functional city.

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

Dear Charter Commissioners,

I'm writing to urge you to prioritize environmental justice and climate action in the Charter Review process. Our city is facing overlapping and intersecting challenges -- from the high rates of poverty and homelessness, to deep racial injustice, to the worsening effects of the climate crisis. These challenges hit hardest in communities still reeling from the pandemic, who are already more vulnerable to extreme weather events and involuntary displacement. The Charter Review is a once-in-a-decade chance to comprehensively address the most pressing issues facing our city—without leaving anyone behind. As you make your considerations for Phase II of the Charter Review, I urge you to establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance.

Environmental justice is a framework that can enable our city to rise to meet this moment to correct system problems that worsen inequities that have burdened the city and have prevented its progress to become a city that works for all Portlanders

I am a youth climate labor organizer in the city and I am scared. My peers are scared. A week doesn't go by without my best friend saying something about how we'll be gone due to the climate in 10 years. Our generation wants the chance to realize our vision of a better world, and we can start that today by building environmental justice into the building blocks of our city. Climate is tied to everything. Please take action to ensure livable futures for, not only us and the generations to come, but for people today. This crisis is already lethal. At the very least, we can't allow it to worsen.

Many cities and states are now moving quickly to establish stronger environmental rights and protections for their residents, to create new offices or structures to address the climate crisis and its implications at a systemic level, to ensure that their most vulnerable constituents aren't bearing the greatest health and economic burdens of climate

adaptation in the form of energy bills, hazardous living conditions, and more. Because of the severity and wide ranging and complex problems that the climate crisis involves, gathering a Sub-committee composed of community experts that can inform and contribute to policy solutions is critical to addressing these issues in the City's charter.

The climate crisis is here, and we are running out of time to prevent catastrophic levels of warming and to begin the critical work of adapting to a hotter, drier, and less predictable world. Portland is trailing behind on this front, and we cannot afford to wait until 2032 to take action. Cities such as New York, Baltimore and Honolulu, and San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and Houston have already included specific charter language such as green amendments to move their municipal governments towards solutions to address climate change and tackle the problem from many angles. Portland's Charter Commission must take this once-in-a-decade chance to prepare our City and our most impacted communities to adapt and thrive through the challenges to come.

Please establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your ongoing work towards building a more equitable and functional city.

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

Dear Charter Commissioners,

I'm writing to urge you to prioritize environmental justice and climate action in the Charter Review process. Our city is facing overlapping and intersecting challenges -- from the high rates of poverty and homelessness, to deep racial injustice, to the worsening effects of the climate crisis. These challenges hit hardest in communities still reeling from the pandemic, who are already more vulnerable to extreme weather events and involuntary displacement. The Charter Review is a once-in-a-decade chance to comprehensively address the most pressing issues facing our city—

without leaving anyone behind. As you make your considerations for Phase II of the Charter Review, I urge you to establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance.

Environmental justice is a framework that can enable our city to rise to meet this moment to correct system problems that worsen inequities that have burdened the city and have prevented its progress to become a city that works for all Portlanders

[Share a little bit about why the charter/these reforms matter to you and/or your community specifically, or more specific changes you'd like to see - more talking points below! Delete this sentence if you don't want to personalize]

Many cities and states are now moving quickly to establish stronger environmental rights and protections for their residents, to create new offices or structures to address the climate crisis and its implications at a systemic level, to ensure that their most vulnerable constituents aren't bearing the greatest health and economic burdens of climate adaptation in the form of energy bills, hazardous living conditions, and more. Because of the severity and wide ranging and complex problems that the climate crisis involves, gathering a Sub-committee composed of community experts that can inform and contribute to policy solutions is critical to addressing these issues in the City's charter.

The climate crisis is here, and we are running out of time to prevent catastrophic levels of warming and to begin the critical work of adapting to a hotter, drier, and less predictable world. Portland is trailing behind on this front, and we cannot afford to wait until 2032 to take action. Cities such as New York, Baltimore and Honolulu, and San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and Houston have already included specific charter language such as green amendments to move their municipal governments towards solutions to address climate change and tackle the problem from many angles. Portland's Charter Commission must take this once-in-a-decade chance to prepare our City and our most impacted communities to adapt and thrive through the challenges to come.

Please establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your ongoing work towards building a more equitable and functional city.

Dear Charter Commissioners,

I'm writing to urge you to prioritize environmental justice and climate action in the Charter Review process. Our city is facing overlapping and intersecting challenges -- from the high rates of poverty and homelessness, to deep racial injustice, to the worsening effects of the climate crisis. These challenges hit hardest in communities still reeling from the pandemic, who are already more vulnerable to extreme weather events and involuntary displacement. The Charter Review is a once-in-a-decade chance to comprehensively address the most pressing issues facing our city—without leaving anyone behind. As you make your considerations for Phase II of the Charter Review, I urge you to establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance.

Environmental justice is a framework that can enable our city to rise to meet this moment to correct system problems that worsen inequities that have burdened the city and have prevented its progress to become a city that works for all Portlanders

It's very important to me because we need to address this before we are too late. The impact on the younger community is so prominent and we all wish for change.

Many cities and states are now moving quickly to establish stronger environmental rights and protections for their residents, to create new offices or structures to address the climate crisis and its implications at a systemic level, to ensure that their most vulnerable constituents aren't bearing the greatest health and economic burdens of climate adaptation in the form of energy bills, hazardous living conditions, and more. Because of the severity and wide ranging and complex problems that the climate crisis involves, gathering a Sub-committee composed of community experts that can inform and contribute to policy solutions is critical to addressing these issues in the City's charter.

The climate crisis is here, and we are running out of time to prevent catastrophic levels of warming and to begin the critical work of adapting to a hotter, drier, and less predictable world. Portland is trailing behind on this front, and we cannot afford to wait until 2032 to take action. Cities such as New York, Baltimore and Honolulu, and San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and Houston have already included specific charter language such as green amendments to move their municipal governments towards solutions to address climate change and tackle the problem from many angles. Portland's Charter Commission must take this once-in-a-decade chance to prepare our City and our most impacted communities to adapt and thrive through the challenges to come.

Please establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your ongoing work towards building a more equitable and functional city.

Dear Charter Commissioners,

I'm writing to urge you to prioritize environmental justice and climate action in the Charter Review process. Our city is facing overlapping and intersecting challenges -- from the high rates of poverty and homelessness, to deep racial injustice, to the worsening effects of the climate crisis. These challenges hit hardest in communities still reeling from the pandemic, who are already more vulnerable to extreme weather events and involuntary displacement. The Charter Review is a once-in-a-decade chance to comprehensively address the most pressing issues facing our city—without leaving anyone behind. As you make your considerations for Phase II of the Charter Review, I urge you to establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance.

Environmental justice is a framework that can enable our city to rise to meet this moment to correct system problems that worsen inequities that have burdened the city and have prevented its progress to become a city that works for all Portlanders

We need to better Portland's climate

Many cities and states are now moving quickly to establish stronger environmental rights and protections for their residents, to create new offices or structures to address the climate crisis and its implications at a systemic level, to ensure that their most vulnerable constituents aren't bearing the greatest health and economic burdens of climate adaptation in the form of energy bills, hazardous living conditions, and more. Because of the severity and wide ranging and complex problems that the climate crisis involves, gathering a Sub-committee composed of community experts that can inform and contribute to policy solutions is critical to addressing these issues in the City's charter.

The climate crisis is here, and we are running out of time to prevent catastrophic levels of warming and to begin the critical work of adapting to a hotter, drier, and less predictable world. Portland is trailing behind on this front, and we cannot afford to wait until 2032 to take action. Cities such as New York, Baltimore and Honolulu, and San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and Houston have already included specific charter language such as green amendments to move their municipal governments towards solutions to address climate change and tackle the problem from many angles. Portland's Charter Commission must take this once-in-a-decade chance to prepare our City and our most impacted communities to adapt and thrive through the challenges to come.

Please establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city's governance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your ongoing work towards building a more equitable and functional city.

Dear Charter Commissioners,

I'm writing to urge you to prioritize environmental justice and climate action in the Charter Review process. Our city is facing overlapping and intersecting challenges -- from the high rates of poverty and homelessness, to deep racial injustice, to the worsening effects of the climate crisis. These challenges hit hardest in communities still reeling from

the pandemic, who are already more vulnerable to extreme weather events and involuntary displacement. The Charter Review is a once-in-a-decade chance to comprehensively address the most pressing issues facing our city—without leaving anyone behind. As you make your considerations for Phase II of the Charter Review, I urge you to establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city’s governance.

Environmental justice is a framework that can enable our city to rise to meet this moment to correct system problems that worsen inequities that have burdened the city and have prevented its progress to become a city that works for all Portlanders

I believe equitable, collaborative and strategic ideals are at the foot of us building a resilient future.

Many cities and states are now moving quickly to establish stronger environmental rights and protections for their residents, to create new offices or structures to address the climate crisis and its implications at a systemic level, to ensure that their most vulnerable constituents aren’t bearing the greatest health and economic burdens of climate adaptation in the form of energy bills, hazardous living conditions, and more. Because of the severity and wide ranging and complex problems that the climate crisis involves, gathering a Sub-committee composed of community experts that can inform and contribute to policy solutions is critical to addressing these issues in the City’s charter.

The climate crisis is here, and we are running out of time to prevent catastrophic levels of warming and to begin the critical work of adapting to a hotter, drier, and less predictable world. Portland is trailing behind on this front, and we cannot afford to wait until 2032 to take action. Cities such as New York, Baltimore and Honolulu, and San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and Houston have already included specific charter language such as green amendments to move their municipal governments towards solutions to address climate change and tackle the problem from many angles. Portland’s Charter Commission must take this once-in-a-decade chance to prepare our City and our most impacted communities to adapt and thrive through the challenges to come.

Please establish a subcommittee to explicitly address environmental and climate justice in our city’s governance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and for your ongoing work towards building a more equitable and functional city.

The proposal to elect more than one person to each district/ward would seem to make each official less accountable to the people being represented. What is the advantage?

Thank you members of the Charter Commission for the great work you are doing for all of us Portlanders. I served in City government for 15 years of my professional career as an Assistant City Manager, Police Commissioner, and City Manager. I also served on the Charter Commission that formed Metro's Charter in the early 1990's. I respect your work and would like to ask a few questions: (1) Has the Commission considered term limits for those who are elected to City Council? (2) How do you propose to fill a vacant City Council or Mayoral seat if someone during a term either runs for another office or moves away from the City. (3) We just witnessed a candidate for Governor who was deemed not-eligible-to-run because of his residency status. What are you proposing for consideration residency relative to what makes a person eligible to run for the Mayor or City Commission? (4) Can we assume the City Council and Mayor run as non-partisan roles? (5) What was the consideration, if any, given to the possibility of the Mayor actually not being a member of the City Council, but that Council is purely a legislative/deliberative body and the Mayor proposes, but does not vote. However, the Mayor could have veto power that could be overcome by a 2/3 vote of the City Council. (6) Can you help us understand how you landed on three representatives per District rather than two?

City Charter Commissioners,  
Dear Portland Charter Review Commissioner,  
Thank you for your service on the Commission. I write to urge you to vote to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. I believe the Commission could dramatically expand democratic participation and participatory democracy in Portland by advancing the following proposals directly to the voters in November and in Phase II reforms over the next year.  
1.) Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of

residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

2.) Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district.

3.) Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates.

4.) Eliminate Primary elections

5.) Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures.

6.) Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy.

7.) Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older.

8.) Establish an environmental justice committee in Phase II to incorporate climate justice mandates into the City's Charter.

At a time when representative democracy in the United States is crumbling, Portland needs to be bold in expanding participatory democracy. It is not enough for people to just consent to be governed. They need more and expanded opportunities to share self-governance. Portland's new Charter needs to guaranteed representation and distribute decision-making power throughout our diverse neighborhoods and communities so that all people know and can exercise their power in decisions that affect their lives. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deeper changes to Portland's Charter.

For a Charter and City where power is shared and exercised by all,

Please see attached public comment.

Thank you for all you are doing,

Please find attached MORE public comment...

Thanks AGAIN for all you are doing,

To whom it may concern,

There needs to be education about what a city manager does and why the city council should not be running the city bureaus.

In the Oregonian Sunday paper there was a article titled Poll: Voters eager to ditch cities odd form of government. Only 13% think the city was heading in the right direction. But 51% of those polled wanted a strong mayor form of government with no city manager. Is that not what we have now?

The most popular option was strong mayor form of government and a larger city council. Unbelievable I had some hope for Portland with what you are trying to do. But please we need to educate the people of Portland. HOW CAN I HELP!!!!

Respectfully,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,  
Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland’s Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can’t have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland’s Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and

participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1  
Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district  
Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates  
Eliminate Primary elections  
Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures  
Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy  
Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies  
Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older  
Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.  
In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.  
For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,  
Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,  
I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:  
Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1  
Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district  
Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates  
Eliminate Primary elections  
Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures  
Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy  
Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies  
Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital

improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-

making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and

older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older  
Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.  
In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.  
For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,  
Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,  
I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:  
Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1  
Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district  
Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates  
Eliminate Primary elections  
Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures  
Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy  
Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies  
Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older  
Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.  
In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.  
For a City where power is held by all of us,

Ms. Meier:  
  
I strongly urge the charter commission to approve a ballot measure to change Portland's government to a council-manager format, with all councilors elected to represent different geographic districts. With districts having their own voice in city government and executive functions being insulated from political lobbying, our city government will be more representative of all Portlanders, not just those with the deepest pockets. Thank you.

City Charter Commissioners,  
Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,  
I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:  
Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of

residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected

while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,  
Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,  
Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter

changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and

older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of

the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants

on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates  
Eliminate Primary elections  
Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures  
Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy  
Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies  
Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older  
Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.  
In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.  
For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,  
Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,  
I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:  
Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1  
Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district  
Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates  
Eliminate Primary elections  
Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures  
Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy  
Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies  
Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older  
Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.  
In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or

settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged

with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

Julia good morning; attached is a recently adopted Resolution from the NW District Association regarding the current review process and emerging districting proposals. This resolution is in addition to the one forwarded by the NWDA on Jan 26.

Please confirm receipt, and relay to the Commission for their consideration.

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

Codify campaign finance laws into the charter so we can't have another mayor (like Ted Wheeler) who was elected while violating campaign finance laws.

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

March 24th, 2022

Dear City Charter Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to the Portland City Charter Commission as they consider and vote on both the city form of government and which voting system proposal they will recommend and pass either as a majority or will refer to voters in the fall. My name is Crystalyn Black, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the Urban League of Portland. The Urban League of Portland is one of Oregon's oldest civil rights and social service organizations, empowering African Americans, and others to achieve equality in education, employment, health, economic security and quality of life. We do this by investing in stable housing; through workforce development; community health; education and well-being; for our youth, adults, and seniors. Our culturally specific programs and services, combined with our powerful advocacy and civic engagement, empowers Black communities to thrive across Oregon and SW Washington.

For the communities that we represent, this is an issue of equity and inclusion. For far too long the current commission form of government and voting system, has forced communities of color to make pragmatic choices when it came to leadership decisions; the Commission government currently does not create many pathways for people of color to have a seat on City Council, and it reduces the chances of our communities to elect the candidates we want as our leaders. Since 1913, only five people of color have served on the Portland City council. This matters because the leaders we choose determine which issues get championed.

In partnership with the Coalition for Communities of Color, the Urban League held a series of community workshops.

The goals of these workshops were to walk our communities through the current form of government and voting system and what could be some alternative solutions to consider. More importantly, it was our opportunity to hear from them if the current form of city government and voting was working for them and the overwhelming response was no.

Much of the feedback we received from community members is in alignment with where the Charter Commission has currently come to agreement. Many of the community members that attended also voiced the following:

- That the City Council needed to increase in size.
- End oversight of City bureaus from City Commissioners and shift the management authority elsewhere.
- Clearly redefine the responsibilities of the Mayor and City Council.
- To shift to a form of voting that allows results in one election and captures people's preferences.
- Shifting to a mayor-council government or a council-manager government structure.
- Eliminating the primary election and only having the general election.
- Shifting to an alternative voting method so voters can rank or score more than one candidate.
- Creating geographic districts wherein voters will be represented by more than one elected leader.
- That elected leaders live in the geographic areas they are elected with representing so that there is a vested interest in seeing improvements.
- That there needed to be clarity around who oversaw what department and who could make decisions if they personally had a problem.

Above all else, our communities wanted to see transparency and accountability in our city form of government. Many of our participants felt that they had no clear idea of who oversaw which issues and if they had a problem, who that person would be that could have a possible solution. Many felt that no matter the size of the commission, it was vitally important that their voices be heard and centered in all policies and decisions; especially those that would impact their community. Lastly, we would just reiterate that the current structure of city government is not working for our communities and our communities are asking for and open to changing to a new structure that is more equitable and serves all Portlanders.

Respectfully,

My name is Lillian Moffitt. Thank you for the opportunity to share a comment.

My experiences with the Portland city government have been limited. I think our current form of government structure is less inclusive than it could and should be, especially when it comes to representing our most vulnerable citizens.

The changes I would like to see to our government structure are to increase the amount of representation of the various residents of our diverse communities, not just along ethnic and racial lines, but also in terms of ability and socioeconomic. The values I would like our city government to uplift are inclusiveness and equity for all.

My experiences voting in Portland City Council elections have been limited. I think our current voting system is out of touch with what our community members need in terms of accessibility and information dissemination.

The changes I would like to see to our voting system are to streamline it into one voting session and to have rated options. The values I would like our voting system to uplift are transparency, inclusivity, and equitable access.

One primary concern of mine is the representation and inclusion of folk experiencing homelessness, substance use disorders, and mental/behavioral health conditions. I feel that there needs to be a concerted effort to reach these populations and engage them in the governmental processes which most directly impact them. I would like to see outreach efforts to get people registered and voting who may not otherwise have access to vote.

- As a resident of outer East Portland who has experienced the dysfunction of Commissioners managing bureaus I support the following:
- Geographic assignment of commissioners
- Separation of execution/legislative functions
- Commissioner emphasis on constituent services (it was impossible to get responses to emails frequently and talking to a commissioner never)
- I support city manager form of government

I do not support :

- Increasing the # of commissioners. With the removal of bureau management services responsibilities decrease. The addition of more commissioners would be budget prohibitive decreasing funds to meet the needs of city residents.
- Rank voting--do not support

Well, it's too complicated and easy to refute some sections. I predict if you submit this package to the voters, it will fail.

Which would be a terrible loss for the city.

My recommendation:

Focus only on the composition and role of city council and drop all reference to voting method. Get the most important part right. Come back at another time and recommend a new way of voting for ALL city/county/state elections.

I think you're on the right track! Keep going.

I think Portlanders will support these bold changes in November. City gov't is broken and the people are ready for change.

Thanks for all of your work.

Hi,

I will not be able to submit comments on the 31st. So these are the questions and comments I would like to enter.

- I heard much more support for RCV than for STAR voting. I'm sure the arguments for this have been captured, and I would like to see what they are. The experience of New York City does not seem encouraging for RCV, particularly the issues around voter confusion and the length of time for a complete result to be known. What leads us to believe that what we are proposing will be different?
- I am less concerned about the objection that RCV in combination with multi-representative districts will result in some people potentially being elected with less support than some others in the district. One of the strong arguments for multi-representative districts is that a district with heterogeneous populations can be assured that somebody is representing all the groups, and this seems more likely with RCV or STAR.
- I agree strongly that the council should hammer out a budget, although the mayor should be free to propose something. Budget is policy, since without allocation of resources a policy statement is just like a corporate mission statement. The budget is where the hard decisions among competing priorities are addressed, and it is what ultimately determines what gets done. So the process of producing one should be as open and transparent as possible.

I have been reading that the Charter Committee is leaning towards having multiple representatives from each district/ward, and having voters do "ranked choice" or "Star Voting" to go along with this.

I strongly urge you to abandon this idea, and go to a simple "Majority wins" system with one representative from

each district.

There are several reasons for this:

1. The biggest issue is that having more than one representative for a district opens the door for politicians to continue to be able to ignore their constituents. Our current council, elected without districts, listened to the loudest voices, not the majority and got us in the situation we are now. They could do this because they didn't have a constituency that could say "Why aren't you cleaning up that garbage dump? Why aren't you helping the homeless? Why aren't you getting criminals arrested and jailed? We all know how they would say "Not my job." We can't let that continue.
2. There are arguments that multiple representatives would increase minority representation, but those arguments are not supported by research. Given the mess Portland is in, this is not the time to support unproven pet theories.
3. Star voting and ranked choice voting can be confusing-- Star voting is confusing just to read about in the Star voting promotional material, and that language hasn't been put into the legal terms that would be required in the charter election. The last thing we want it to have charter reform voted down by an electorate that doesn't understand the voting process. Voters tend to reject confusing initiatives. Again, this isn't the time to experiment.
4. The examples presented for Ranked-choice and Star voting imagine four or five candidates running for an office. There were nineteen candidates for Mayor in the most recent election. Do you want to rank 19 candidates? Star-rate 19 candidates?

Let's go with the system used by almost every election in our country. One person elected per ward, the primary-runoff system, and one vote per voter. It isn't perfect, but our current choice is continued dysfunction or moving to a pretty good system. Heck, write in the charter that there is a new charter review every 12 years...if these innovative ideas are tried elsewhere and work, we can adopt them then.

Please, keep it simple, keep it sane.

Thank you for your work on this important project.

Hello Charter Commissioners,

Hank Schottland here, I wanted to reach out after last night's working meeting and once again express my thanks for all of the heavy lifting you've done as the clock ticks toward March 31st. Just amazing.

I did have some thoughts regarding RCV, which seems to have the support of the Commission. As you probably know, RCV is often used to describe an entire voting system consisting of two major pieces: how voters cast votes, and how those votes are counted. But drilling down a bit, RCV really only speaks to the first part - the perspective that voters have when they cast votes. Once cast, there are many different ways to count those votes, especially when there will be multiple winners (as we'll have with MMD's). The combination of how voters vote, and how votes are counted, is combined in a system called STV (single-transferable voting).

Unlike the RCV voting process, the counting part of STV is very complex and has many well-established options. To illustrate: Wikipedia describes the voting method in two short paragraphs. But when it comes to describing how vote counting works, the Wikipedia description is 50 times as long ! This reflects the complexity of counting as well as the pros and cons of the counting options.

I suspect some or perhaps many of you already knew this, but I didn't fully appreciate it until recently, and wanted to pass along what I found. I fully support RCV but I now think it's equally important to consider the broader STV

counting system as well. It's way too wonky to put into the charter, or surface as a discussion topic with voters, but you may want to tee it up for consideration by whatever group is going to decide on the details.

Hello. Thank you for your work and I think you are on a very positive trajectory. And, multi-member districts is an outstanding approach!

I note that Missoula, MT has a population of about 73, 000 with 12 City Councilors. I think Portland should have more than 12. One possibility is to have 6 rather than 4 districts with each having 3 Councilors for a total of 18.

We are moving in the right direction. A bit more boldness in terms of number of Councilors would be an improvement, imo.

Thank you.

I have just read the latest documents that say Portlanders are leaning toward having a City Manager. If we do go that route it is imperative that the manager be beholden to the mayor only. This way, the mayor could hire/fire them when the people vote the mayor in or political winds change. If the council as a whole is in charge of the hiring or firing, the manager will only need to have a simple majority in his or her favor to stay in control and if the mayor had big ideas for change, they will not be able to accomplish this change because of an unelected bureaucrat. By the way, if the people decide those bold ideas the mayor had for change were terrible, they could just vote the mayor out! If anything is absolutely clear, Portlanders want a city government to be run as if it is beholden to the people!

I have a decade of experience in municipal activism from when I lived in Phoenix, AZ. I ran an urbanist organization that was deeply involved in City Hall at both the political and staff levels. My deep experience with a Council-Mgr (also called "weak mayor") form of government would prevent me from supporting that type of change here in Portland. As such, I beseech you to put the Mayor-Council (aka "strong mayor") form of government on the ballot.

From the onset, when the City Manager is hired-by-committee (i.e. the City Council), the politics in selecting (and protecting) that manager are enormous and secretive. Instead, the mayor should simply select a CM/CAO. Let the council have a veto if you like, but we don't want the City Manager owing favors to certain councilors/districts. With the Mayor-Council form, the CM/CAO relationship is straightforward -- that person is responsible to the mayor.

Also, the Council-Manager design purges all accountability to the voters. Voters have no ability to vote on the top executive in that model. Councilors will use the City Manager's office as political cover against doing anything bold that requires leadership, saying they have no direct say over the City Manager's work. At the end of the day, most voters don't understand that the City Manager is the most powerful person in City Hall, which only further convolutes the public's ability to hold City Hall accountable.

And from staff's perspective, having 12 different bosses is not a path for success. In such a situation, you get a very slow moving government. If we had a healthy status quo and were looking for quality management to preserve that status quo, the Council-Mgr system would work very well. But if we are looking for progress and leadership (which I think we are, personally), then we need a more accountable and responsive form of government, which the Mayor-Council design will provide.

So please put a Mayor-Council govt on the ballot, with clear and simple hierarchies of accountability that puts the power in the voters' hands. Give the mayor as much hiring & firing power as possible, with some but minimal oversight by the council in those decisions. And remove the mayor entirely from council meetings, votes, and decisions -- clearly separating the executive and legislative branches. (Removing the mayor from the council also makes it possible for the council to have a council president, which can help the council with clarity of voice in checking the mayor's power.)

I have lots and lots of experience in working with Phoenix City Hall staff at all levels (entry-level all the way up to Directors and the City Manager) and with Phoenix city politics (from lobbying councilors, to chairing city boards, to advising the mayor directly) so please reach out to me at [sean.sweat@gmail.com](mailto:sean.sweat@gmail.com) if you have any questions about how a Council-Manager form of government really works in practice.

Illegal street racing is going on again for many weeks now in North Portland. I won't bother calling non emergency because who wants to be on hold for so long.

If you are going to go through the trouble of creating a new task force try following through and get the job done!

Are you guys completely incapable of managing this city?

Your illegal racing laws are a JOKE! They laugh at your incompetence. We are not laughing though!!!

To Members of the Portland Charter Commission,

As conveyed in previous testimony, the concept of electing city commissioners by district will provide better City Council representation for Portlanders as long as the districts are consistently drawn based on the distance from the central downtown core and do not gerrymander for political, special interest or racial makeup purposes. For example; East of the Willamette River districts should be comprised of one or two (NE and SE) districts East of I-205, one or two (NE and SE) in the central eastside, one or two (NE and SE) for inner eastside and one for North Portland. The issues differ the farther away residents and businesses are from the downtown core. Population density should determine the exact boundaries.

As for the number of City Commissioners, 15 would be too many and lead to lengthy and more time consuming City Council meetings with the larger number of commissioners wanting to comment on agenda items that come before the council. This could be extremely frustrating for members of the public who are signed up and waiting to testify. Nine to possibly twelve commissioners is plenty. Furthermore, what is the cost to taxpayers for a larger City Council and where will their offices be located?

As for the way Portlanders vote for the city commissioners, it should remain the same starting with the primary election. The Governor, Secretary of State, State Senators and Representatives, County Commissioners and Metro Councilors all utilize the same primary election system. Currently it is the same procedure to elect the Mayor of Portland and City Auditor. For consistency, City Council Commissioners should also be elected in the same manner and on the same ballot. There is no need to add any confusion to a process that already works well.

Respectively submitted,

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for your many, many hours of hard work on the commission. As you near the moment when you will make your recommendations, I have a couple of comments.

1. Please do not include all your recommendations in one ballot measure. The more information in each ballot measure, the less likely it is to pass and the easier it will be for opponents of some or all of the measure to confuse voters. A confused voter votes No.
2. The most important elements of your recommendations are, I believe, (a) ending the commissioners' roles as supervisors of bureau directors, (2) electing commissioners by district, and (3) assigning operational authority to an elected mayor or to a city manager hired with approval of the city council.
3. Each of those should be a separate ballot measure.
4. Regarding districts, I would prefer the council limit its expansion to 3-5 more commissioners. The number of districts and the number of commissioners per district can be negotiated within the eight-to-ten commissioner limit. Increasing the number of commissioners to more than ten will lead to chaos.
5. Regarding the mayor/city manager choice, I prefer the city manager, a professionally trained and experienced expert.

6. STOP. Leave the issues around voting for another day. It appears to me that at this time each of the charter review commissioners is jockeying to make sure his/her constituency gets a piece of the pie. To make sure that every constituency has a commissioner is a fool's errand. Let's move forward on the issues that most Portlanders agree need to be fixed.

Meredith Savery

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us,

Thank you for your time and leadership to recommend changes to Portland's form of government and election process. Having worked closely with the city from the inside and outside over the past 25+ years, it's clear that changes to our government structure are essential. Some specific changes I believe would be helpful include:

- Switch to a system where elected commissioners serve legislative functions and aren't also tasked with running bureaus.

- Adopt a form of preference voting (RCV or STAR) for selecting commissioners. I believe that city-wide seats, with the top X candidates all serving, is the most likely to yield a diverse pool of commissioners and where the most residents have at least one person on council they support. But if the city gets divided into districts, I suggest that there be not very many of them, and each to include several commissioner representatives.

- Use a citizen commission to define district boundaries.

- Establish a city manager, to run city bureaus. I'm not sure the best way for this position to be selected, but it seems the mayor would have a strong role in the process, perhaps with ascent required from commissioners.

- Establish an implementation date as soon as practically possible, following the charter commission's ballot date.

The sooner the better to switch to a new form of government for Portland to face local challenges, improve coordination between bureaus, and to do our part for climate & equity.

Thank you for your service!

Members of the Portland Charter Commission:

You're nearing the end of developing what you will be proposing to the residents of Portland. I have been following the process closely and have been impressed on many levels: organization, commitment, level and depth of participation from the community and depth of discussion among the Commission. You are to be commended.

Attached are my comments on some points in your Third Progress Report, specifically on City Council/Elections and Form of Government..

Regards,  
Michael Veale

City Charter Commissioners,

Dear Commissioner on the Portland Charter Review Committee,

I urge you to continue your service as a Commissioner by voting to strengthen democracy and expand decision-making power in the City of Portland. Specifically, I write urging you to vote to refer the following City Charter changes to Portland voters:

Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1

Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district

Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates

Eliminate Primary elections

Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures

Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy

Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies

Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older

In 2022, it is time we commit to Portland's Charter a full program of guaranteed representation and decision-making power distributed throughout our neighborhoods and communities. Rather than staying in our current structure or settling for modest changes, I urge you to vote to refer these deep changes to the Charter.

For a City where power is held by all of us

Now that you, the Portland Charter Commission members, have wisely chosen to use ranked choice ballots (instead of STAR ballots), it's important to understand that voters MUST be allowed to mark two or more candidates at the same ranking level. Here in Portland we have the expertise to write validated software that correctly counts such ballots. Please don't allow the well-funded FairVote organization (which is headquartered just outside of Washington DC) to intimidate you into believing their claim that this flexibility is impossible. Allowing this flexibility provides multiple advantages: (1) Less-well-educated voters will not get their ballots tossed out because of such a foolish limitation. (2) Voter education becomes easier and less expensive -- because that foolish limit doesn't need to be explained. (3) Paper ballots become overwhelming when there are more than 7 ranking levels. (I recommend 6 ranking levels.) (4) Each city-council district will have 3 or 4 seats, so a competitive election should have 12 or

more candidates, which exceeds the number of ranking levels that voters can handle. (5) Most importantly, a voter MUST be allowed to mark their most-disliked candidate at the bottom level, which requires sharing the other ranking levels among the remaining numerous candidates. What credibility do I have for making these recommendations? I'm the VoteFair guy -- at VoteFair.org -- and in addition to being an internationally known expert in election-method reform, I have experience writing very advanced vote-counting software. Yet I'm not alone. There are other software developers here in Portland who can help you make sure that all legible ballots are counted, and none are discarded as uncountable. The world is watching, so please demonstrate how ranked choice ballots should be counted.

Hello, I am a mother, community volunteer, homeowner, and activist in Portland. First, I wanted to thank all of the commissioners for their amazing work this past year. I just finished reading your third report and it brings me hope that we are taking this process seriously to get broad community feedback about what changes we should make to the city charter, specifically addressing the current focus for the Commission: form of government and elections. It was inspiring to see how the Commission's partnership with Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC) and the commitment to the community engagement cohort, paid off by bringing in voices that are traditionally left out of city government affairs. Thank you for all of that diligent work to push forward the new way of working in Portland, where equity and accessibility are prioritized in the conversation around city development and improvements. I look forward to seeing more of this as we continue to grow and learn as a city once reserved for white, affluent voices. I wanted to provide public comment that I am in full support of the Commission's current areas of agreement which include: Shift the constituency of City Council from all at-large seats and increase the size of City Council. The number of seats to 15 sounds ideal. Shift from the commission form of government to a form of government in which City Councilors do not directly manage bureaus. Shift to a form of voting that allows a decision in one election, eliminates the primary, and adopts a voting method that captures people's preferences. Portland has gone too long with the current antiquated form of government and the barrier ridden election process. I'm very excited that the current focus is on creating a new form of government that would ensure a separation of the executive (administrative) and legislative (policy) functions in city government, which is very much needed in our city. I know you know this already, so this my hand raises to say keep going! This is great work and I look forward to seeing the final recommendations in June.

Hello! Overall I am very impressed with the Commission's work. I would like to advocate for a larger city council on the order of 25-35 councilors. This would put us more in line with many other cities global cities our size (Zurich, Lyon, Edinburgh, Auckland).I'm also strongly in favor of multi-member districts and Proportional Representation. While I think STAR voting would be better for the city, RCV is acceptable as long as we are using proportional representation.

Attached

Attached



March 28, 2022

Dear Portland City Charter Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Indigo Namkoong, and I'm writing on behalf of 350PDX, where I'm on staff as the Coalition Manager. We are a local organization of mostly volunteers who have been working to address the root causes of climate disruption through justice-based solutions. Since our founding in 2013, we've mobilized thousands of people to engage with Portland's government and champion policies like Portland's fossil fuel infrastructure ban, the Portland Clean Energy Fund, and the Climate Emergency Declaration.

I'm writing to urge you to prioritize environmental justice and climate action in the Charter Review process. In our history as advocates for strong, accountable climate and environmental policy for the City of Portland, we've seen repeatedly that current commissioners are stretched too thin between their responsibility to their constituents and their managerial duties within their bureaus. We've seen institutional knowledge, momentum, and relationships with community partners suffer due to frequent bureau reassignments that disrupt long-term planning and implementation efforts. We've seen exciting initiatives like the Climate Emergency Declaration hamstrung by a lack of interagency cooperation on essential fronts such as green infrastructure and transportation emissions. We've seen communities repeatedly engaged on a superficial level yet offered minimal support or agency regarding decisions that would greatly impact their daily lives.

Portland's just transition to clean energy and climate resilience cannot happen in a day, so we fear it *will* not happen unless our governance is equipped to support consistency, collaboration, and deep democracy for the long haul. For these reasons, we specifically urge that you recommend the following reforms in Phase 1:

- Replace the commission form of government with a system that unifies administrative authority under either an elected mayor (Mayor/Council) or appointed city manager (Council/Manager);
- Establish a City-wide participatory budgeting process with an allocation to such a process of a minimum of 10% of the annual General Fund budget and a minimum of 5% of annual parks and transportation-related capital improvement expenditures;
- Establish City standards and programs to ensure fair and equitable opportunities for all Portlanders to engage and participate in government decision making, including fair and equitable opportunities to serve on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other such groups – standing and temporary – charged with making or recommending City policy;

- Establish new policies and programmatic capacity for using democratic lottery for selecting some or all participants on City-administered commissions, boards, advisory committees, task forces, or other policy making or oversight bodies, and
- Open the civic participation process outlined in the previous three reforms to non-citizens and people age 16 and older, with the goal of reforming Oregon state law to expand voting rights to non-citizens and people age 16 and older.

As we transition towards a new form of government, we must also turn our attention to the way we choose who will enter it and govern. Environmental justice demands the right of all people to participate as equal partners at every level of decision-making, with particular attention to the participation of those most impacted by these decisions. As the climate crisis progresses, the communities who will experience it first and worst—in Portland, this includes but is not limited to communities of color, low-income folks, disabled folks, unhoused folks, people living in heat islands, polluted, or flood-prone neighborhoods—need every opportunity possible to shape, pass and implement the solutions that will work for them. While we believe that Portland’s most climate-impacted communities are the best equipped to steer climate response, they are also dramatically underrepresented as elected officials, who have been overwhelmingly white, wealthy homeowners from the West side or inner East side for the entirety of our City’s history. Portland’s electoral system fails on nearly every measure of inclusion, and our challenges have outgrown its capacity. For a representative, responsive government that can rise to meet the climate emergency, we ask that you recommend the following changes to our electoral system:

- Expand City Council to at least 23 seats, and adjust the size of council in the future to maintain a ratio of residents:councilors of no greater than 30,000:1;
- Implement multi-member districts, elected with proportional representation, with a minimum of 4 councilors per district;
- Change the city's voting method from First-Past-The-Post to a method that allows voters to express preference levels for multiple candidates, and
- Eliminate primary elections.

Finally, as you look ahead to your work in Phase II, we urge you to establish an **environmental and climate justice subcommittee** to explicitly address further environment and climate measures in our city’s governance. Many cities and states are now moving quickly to establish stronger environmental rights and protections for their residents, to create new offices or structures to address the climate crisis and its implications at a systemic level, to ensure that their most vulnerable constituents aren’t bearing the greatest health and economic burdens of climate adaptation in the form of energy bills, hazardous living conditions, and more. Because of the severe, wide-ranging, and complex problems embedded in the climate crisis, gathering a sub-committee of Charter Commissioners and community experts that can inform and contribute to policy solutions is critical to addressing these issues in the City’s charter.

Cities such as New York, Baltimore and Honolulu and San Francisco, Salt Lake City and Houston have already included specific charter language such as green amendments to move their municipal governments towards solutions to address climate change and tackle the problem from many angles. Portland is trailing behind on this front, and we cannot afford to wait until 2032 to take action. Portland’s Charter Commission must take this once-in-a-decade chance to prepare our City and our most impacted

communities to adapt and thrive through the challenges to come. The climate crisis is here. Our efforts to mitigate further damage and adapt to what's to come will be the work of lifetimes, so shouldn't we begin it now? We hope to be supporters and collaborators in that work with you, and look forward to the chance to transform Portland for the better.

Sincerely,

Indigo Namkoong  
Coalition Manager, 350PDX  
On behalf of the Staff Collective



# Northwest District Association

March 22, 2022

**Portland Charter Commission  
Board of Commissioners**

**Via electronic mail**

**RE: Charter Review Resolution 2**

Dear Commissioners:

The NW District Association adopted a Resolution in January in general support of the Commission's proposals regarding governance and elections, but specifically recommending limiting the number of districts and the number of representatives from each district:

*For these reasons, the NW District Association endorses the work of the Charter Commission and supports a new city charter with a strong executive and the election of city commissioners based on geographic districts. We believe, however, that the number of District members should be limited to one per district, and the number of districts should be as few as reasonably possible.*

At our meeting last night, the NWDA adopted a further Resolution regarding the structure of proposed districts. The NWDA acknowledges that the Commission will likely defer addressing specific district boundaries, but nonetheless the NWDA believes that it is vitally important that districting reinforce and support existing neighborhood association boundaries as the fundamental geographic increment in any districting proposal:

***For these reasons, the NW District Association asks the Commission to employ the existing recognized neighborhood association boundaries as the basic geographic unit in assigning representative districts, and that school enrollment areas be considered an additional increment. These geographic areas represent the fundamental institutional and social infrastructure of our city, and should not be divided or distorted. We oppose using precincts, census tracts or zip codes for these reasons.***

Best Regards,  
Northwest District Association

Parker McNulty  
President, NW District Association Board of Directors

*the NorthWest District Association is a 501(3)c tax-exempt organization*

2257 NW Raleigh St. Portland Oregon 97210 503 823 4288 [northwestdistrictassociation.org](http://northwestdistrictassociation.org)

# Comments to the Portland Charter Commission in response to it's Third Progress Report

Michael Veale, March 28,2022

Recommendations/Comments	Comments/Observations
<b>City Council / Elections</b>	
Move from all "at-large" districts to all district-based Council districts (p26}	No concerns with having district-based Council districts except concerned that without some at-large members, the Council may lack adequate perspective and commitment to city-wide/regional considerations. If Mayor is on Council (not defined) then that's one. Some cities have at-large members, e.g., Houston 5 of 15, Oakland 1 of 7. Dallas, all district-based council except Mayor, has tough time adequately addressing strategic issues; e.g., distribution of infrastructure, equity, housing, etc. funding, priorities and policies.
Adopted ranked choice voting; therefore, no primary so elections only in November (p28, 29)	No concerns
Three representatives per district (p27)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has adequate predictive analysis been completed about the demographics of potential districts and whether the anticipated result (benefits) would be achieved? Is Portland treading new ground? Important to understand unintended consequences.</li> <li>• Is there a rationale as to four districts of three vs a larger number of smaller (more neighborhood based due to scale) districts?</li> </ul>
12+ Council members, 3 from each district = 4 Council districts (p27)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full- or part-time positions?</li> <li>• Compensation to attract candidates and their ability to commit the necessary time to the role envisioned by the Charter Commission.</li> </ul> See Appendix A for further comments
Retain 4 years terms, with ½ elected every two years	No concerns except need clarity of how transition will be effected. Presumably, all seats have to be up for the first election but half will be for two year, correct? Which?
Propose redistricting criteria only; boundaries which would proposed before and in time for Nov 2024 election (p31)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implication is that there is a <b>two (2) year delay to implementing the new charter and governance structure.</b></li> <li>• Not sure could be speeded up unless election cycle moved to off/odd numbered years in which case one year delay. Downside is voter turnout in non-Congressional/Presidential elections. Again, there would be a transition issue.</li> <li>• How have other cities transitioned.</li> </ul>
No reference to term limits	Requirements, if any, should be explicitly articulated. I support term limits; whatever those may be.
<b>Form of Government</b>	
Authority to hire, fire, and supervise a professional city manager/ administrator and bureau directors." (p32)	Concur with the Commission's agreed details on p32.  <i>Comments on unanswered questions follows</i>
[whether] Mayor should have a role on City Council	At a minimum, the Mayor and City Manager/Administrator have to have a role to place matters (briefings, legislative, etc) before the Council and its Committees so that government can function. Council members/officers also needs a process as well but there should be a minimum number of signatures to add an item or some other process to ensure enough interest/support to consume Council time.

<p>whether Mayor is a formal member of council, and if so ... and preside, over a meeting; how and when would a Mayor vote ...</p>	<p>Other than New York City (which nearly operates as a city/state in its complexity), I am unaware of any major city where the Mayor is not a member of the Council, nor its presiding officer.</p>
<p>... what are their powers to propose policy, ...</p>	<p>My experience with Dallas, is that the City Manager proposes a lot of policies, projects, priorities, etc.; many times from questions and requests from Council members and committees. Council and Committee briefings are sources of requests as well as staff's responses (proposals) to those requests after individual/collective discussions. I struggle to understand how Portland's government could be responsive without the power to propose agenda items (e.g., policies)</p>
<p>... veto ordinances, ...</p>	<p>I believe a Mayor should have veto authority but Council should retain the ability to override the veto with some higher threshold. I believe this is even more important when the Mayor is the only voice elected at large. Portland, like all major cities, operate in a larger business, government, etc. ecosystem.</p>
<p>and whether the firing of a city manager/administrator should involve the input of City Council</p>	<p>Attracting a seasoned professional as City Manager/Administrator, which by its nature operates in a political context, should have some comfort that they cannot be removed without cause. If Council is approving the manager, their counsel should also be sought for removal (simple majority)</p>
<p>A majority of Commissioners believe a Mayor should not have veto authority.</p>	<p>See earlier comment.</p>
<p>Decisions around what is the role of a Mayor will also shape the leadership organization and structure on the City Council</p>	<p>Careful consideration should be given to what is inserted in the Charter vs leaving to Council, in its legislative role, defining the operations of Council. With respect to Council committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little has been written about Council Committees. With a larger Council, it's important to have a committee structure, to distribute the legislative process among its members.</li> <li>• As an example, the Dallas City Council has eight committees (see Appendix A). The city's charter gives the Mayor the power to establish committees and their terms of reference as well as select the members of each Committee. Under Dallas' weak Mayor (Council/Manager) form of government, its one of the few points of leverage he/she has where he/she is one of 15 votes on the Council with no veto.</li> <li>• Committee roles can include for matters within their topical scope: advising staff on issues/priorities, requesting briefings on questions/matters of importance, reviewing proposed policies/strategies, incentives and legislation for advancement to Council for approval.</li> </ul>

## **APPENDIX A: Council Part/Full-time Role and Compensation and Cost Implications**

Concern: Will future Council members have the ability to devote the necessary time to fulfill the roles envisioned by the Charter Commission.

- Are Council members expected to be full-time or part-time.
- Compensation will likely be factor, whether full- or part-time, as to the degree to which they can each support the roles the Commission is envisioned.

Page 32 of the Third Progress report stated: "The imagined role of city councilors would include:"

- Responsibility for policy development (legislating)
- Approving the city budget
- Increased constituent engagement, outreach, and community relationship building
- Greater ability to link on-the-ground constituent engagement into effective policy reforms
- Collaboration on major initiatives and long-term strategic planning for the city
- Committee work specializing in different policy areas (e.g. transportation, policing, housing, environmental protection, etc.)
- Oversight and accountability towards city bureaus and executive branch
- Intergovernmental relationship building, collaboration, and communication
- Responsiveness to local issues facing their respective districts

Prior progress reports/presentations from the Commission indicate a desire to understand the incremental costs for the proposed Charter changes. Some of the factors, include:

- Incremental salary costs for ~15 council members (full- or part-time) vs 5 full-time commissioners
- Cost difference between Council support staff for each of the ~15 vs support staff for each of the 5 Commissioners. For comparative purposes, each Dallas council member has two dedicated staff
- Will future Council Committees require dedicated staff to help those committees track and manage their calendars and expectations of staff.

All of these require time of Council members:

- Working/interacting with staff on/understanding issues, needs, priorities, reviews of service/performance
- Focused interactions with stakeholders/advisory committees, committee meetings reaching consensus.
- Constituent engagement, town halls, outreach, relationship building, connecting to staff and others, building consensus.
- Committee and other meetings influencing direction, reaching consensus internally and with staff on policy, priorities, etc.

Staff support will be critical. Question is what will be the incremental impact on staff required to support 15 vs 5 Council members as well as the introduction of some number of committees?

Following is some perspective on the City of Dallas. The Dallas City Council operates through Agenda (decisions on resolutions, ordinances, budget, zoning matters, etc) and Briefings (staff informs Council) and a eight (8) standing committees where staff briefs (informs) committee members and committees decide on matters to be advanced to the full Council (e.g., policies, incentives, etc).

The Commission and staff have a better appreciation of time implications of supporting the legislative functions in Portland. As a proxy, the following table summarizes the number of meetings and number of pages in agenda/briefing packets for 2021 meetings. A more detailed analysis would dimension consent agenda vs items for individual consideration, the number/complexity of major policy, program, service, etc. matters Council would need to address and the envisioned budget process (among others)

Council Meeting Type	No. Meet	Agenda Pages				
		Total	Avg/Meet	Max	Min	Per Month
<b>CITY COUNCIL</b>						
Council Agenda	19	19,634	1,033	1,652	583	<b>1,785</b>
Council Briefing	18	1,631	91	183	14	<b>148</b>
<b>COUNCIL COMMITTEES</b>						
Environment & Sustainability	12	804	67	134	25	<b>73</b>
Economic Development	12	1,071	89	134	31	<b>97</b>
Govt Performance & Financial Mgmt	10	1,700	170	317	4	<b>155</b>
Housing & Homelessness	12	1,291	108	189	53	<b>117</b>
Public Safety	11	1,021	93	149	57	<b>93</b>
Quality of Life, Arts & Culture	9	419	47	77	13	<b>38</b>
Transportation & Infrastructure	12	1,064	89	156	13	<b>97</b>
Workforce, Education & Equity	11	862	78	136	46	<b>78</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>29,497</b>	<b>1,864</b>			<b>2,682</b>

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear City Charter Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to the Portland City Charter Commission as they consider and vote on both the city form of government and which voting system proposal they will recommend and pass either as a majority or will refer to voters in the fall. My name is Crystalyn Black, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the Urban League of Portland. The Urban League of Portland is one of Oregon's oldest civil rights and social service organizations, empowering African Americans, and others to achieve equality in education, employment, health, economic security and quality of life. We do this by investing in stable housing; through workforce development; community health; education and well-being; for our youth, adults, and seniors. Our culturally specific programs and services, combined with our powerful advocacy and civic engagement, empowers Black communities to thrive across Oregon and SW Washington.

For the communities that we represent, this is an issue of equity and inclusion. For far too long the current commission form of government and voting system, has forced communities of color to make pragmatic choices when it came to leadership decisions; the Commission government currently does not create many pathways for people of color to have a seat on City Council, and it reduces the chances of our communities to elect the candidates we want as our leaders. Since 1913, only five people of color have served on the Portland City council. This matters because the leaders we choose determine which issues get championed.

In partnership with the Coalition for Communities of Color, the Urban League held a series of community workshops. The goals of these workshops were to walk our communities through the current form of government and voting system and what could be some alternative solutions to consider. More importantly, it was our opportunity to hear from them if the current form of city government and voting was working for them and the overwhelming response was no.

Much of the feedback we received from community members is in alignment with where the Charter Commission has currently come to agreement. Many of the community members that attended also voiced the following:

- That the City Council needed to increase in size.
- End oversight of City bureaus from City Commissioners and shift the management authority elsewhere.
- Clearly redefine the responsibilities of the Mayor and City Council.
- To shift to a form of voting that allows results in one election and captures people's preferences.



- Shifting to a mayor-council government or a council-manager government structure.
- Eliminating the primary election and only having the general election.
- Shifting to an alternative voting method so voters can *rank or score* more than one candidate.
- Creating geographic districts wherein voters will be represented by more than one elected leader.
- That elected leaders live in the geographic areas they are elected with representing so that there is a vested interest in seeing improvements.
- That there needed to be clarity around who oversaw what department and who could make decisions if they personally had a problem.

Above all else, our communities wanted to see transparency and accountability in our city form of government. Many of our participants felt that they had no clear idea of who oversaw which issues and if they had a problem, who that person would be that could have a possible solution. Many felt that no matter the size of the commission, it was vitally important that their voices be heard and centered in all policies and decisions; especially those that would impact their community. Lastly, we would just reiterate that the current structure of city government is not working for our communities and our communities are asking for and open to changing to a new structure that is more equitable and serves all Portlanders.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Parrish Taylor  
Director of Advocacy and Public Policy  
Urban League of Portland  
Portland, OR 97227  
Phone: 503.280.2600 ext. 609  
Fax: 503.281.2612

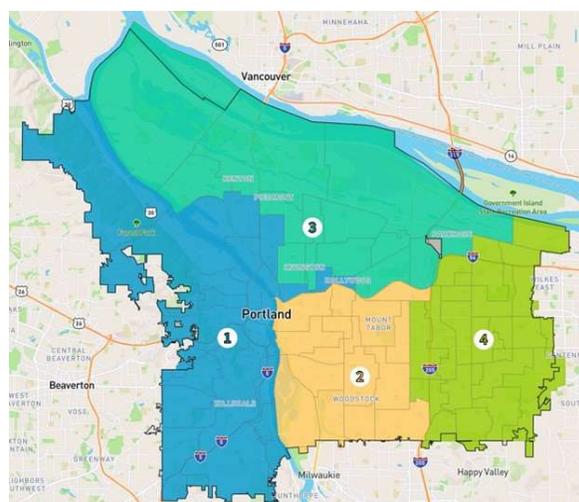
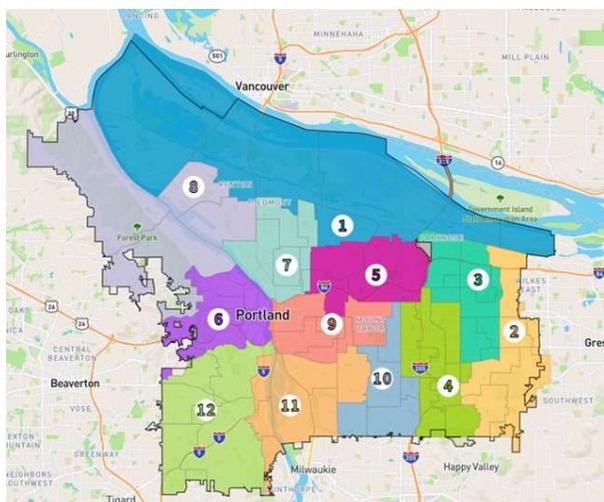
**Terry J. Harris**  
5047 SW 18<sup>th</sup> Pl.  
Portland, OR 97239  
[terryjharris@gmail.com](mailto:terryjharris@gmail.com)

Portland Charter Commission  
Via email: [CharterReview2020@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:CharterReview2020@portlandoregon.gov)

March 20, 2022

Commissioners,

Having watched your most recent work session, I'm resubmitting these example district maps I provided in December or so, with some questions you need to answer this week.



When you discuss “district-based representation” with someone from the public, or when people are polled on “district-based representation,” which of these two population-balanced maps do you think is in the mind of that person when they hear the term?

Similarly, when you discuss “enlarging the council to 12 members” with someone from the public, or when people are polled on “enlarging the council to 12 members,” which of these two population-balanced maps do you think is in the mind of that person when they hear that description?

Which of these two maps would residents in east Portland prefer? North Portland? Southwest Portland? Inner southeast? Inner northeast? Cully? Sellwood-Moreland? Et cetera. Indeed, which of these two maps would most neighborhood associations prefer?

***If these two maps were put before all Portland voters to determine their preference for “district-based representation” and “enlarging the council to 12 members” which would get more votes?***

Sincerely,  
Terry J. Harris

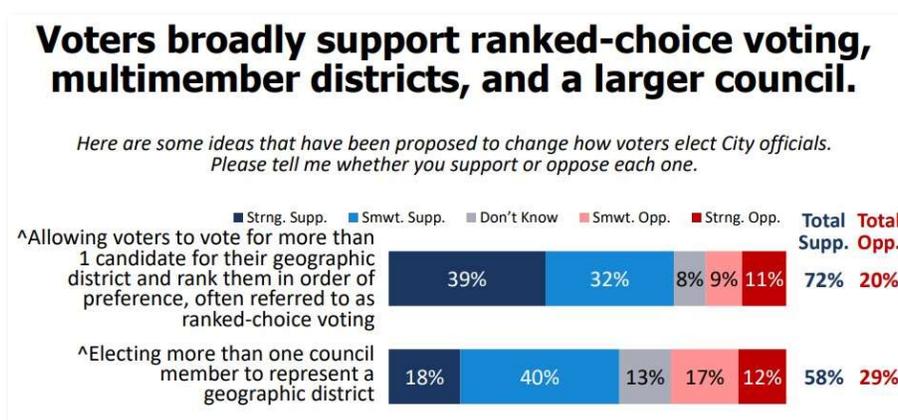
**Terry J. Harris**  
5047 SW 18<sup>th</sup> Pl.  
Portland, OR 97239  
[terryjharris@gmail.com](mailto:terryjharris@gmail.com)

Portland Charter Commission  
Via email: [CharterReview2020@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:CharterReview2020@portlandoregon.gov)

March 20, 2022

Commissioners,

Once again, the Commission has squandered an opportunity to gather meaningful input on single versus multi-member districts. This portion of a slide from your recent presentation on polling is again illustrative of your inability to ask the right questions.



I find it frustrating, and bordering on comical, that your polling attempts to tease out the effects of ranked choice voting on the compound question asked in the first chart. But it fails to tease out the impacts of your decision on single or multi-member districts. In no scenario that the Commission is considering would the “geographic district” be the same size.

And the issue is very easy to describe fairly:

***Here are some ideas that have been proposed to change how voters elect City officials. Please tell me whether you support or oppose each one:***

- 1. Electing a single council member to a district about the size of several neighborhoods.***
- 2. Electing multiple council members to a district about the size of a city quadrant.***

It is almost as if you know the answer already but refuse to ask it.

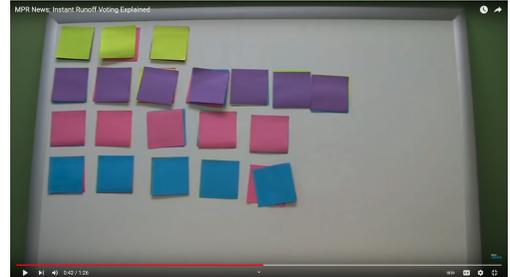
Sincerely,  
Terry J. Harris

Fillard Spring-Rhyne  
frhyne@hevanet.com  
971-645-8796

Thank you for everything you've been doing to bring RCV and proportional representation to Portland. As I said at the March 10 meeting, I'm thrilled.

### Three suggestions:

**1.** I urge you to take 5 minutes – maybe right now? – to watch the following videos about RCV (referred to here as instant runoff voting). They're short, **easy to follow**, and **show some of the technical aspects that other videos gloss over**. Great for voter education.



(1:26) **MPR News: Instant Runoff Voting Explained**  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_5SLQXNpzsk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_5SLQXNpzsk)

(2:42) **How Instant Runoff Voting works 2.0: Multiple winners**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INxwMdi8OWw>

(A few years later, MPR News rerecorded the first video using RCV terminology. See (1:10) **How does ranked-choice voting work?** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHRPMJmzBBw>)

**2.** It looks like you're settling on **3 councilors per district**, which is a massive improvement over what we have now. But since the benefits of proportional representation increase with additional councilors per district, it'd be good if you could **lay some groundwork** for an increase later. What I suggest is that you **draft an additional ballot measure** for the voters to consider in **some future election** – maybe 2034? – to **add one to the number of councilors per district**, relative to two years earlier (e.g. in the 2032 election). Then write your 2022 RCV ballot measure to **include a charter provision that puts the above measure on the ballot in the designated year**.

(If council terms are staggered, this future ballot measure would need to include transitional language with some 2-year terms, much like the 2022 RCV ballot measure will need transitional language that applies to the first RCV election in 2024 or whenever.)

You could write the measure to leave the number of districts unchanged (in which case the council would get bigger), or you could have it reduce the number of districts by one.

One obvious payoff of establishing such a future ballot measure now would be to **save work** getting the change on the ballot. That'd be huge. You'd also be **creating a public expectation** for the future measure. That would have all sorts of useful consequences, such as instigating a long-term, low-level conversation about **why** we'd want to add another councilor per district. (E.g., to further remove the conditions needed for gerrymandering to work effectively.)

**3.** Remember, **if you have questions about RCV, there are people available to help**. I'm one such person, and you've met others as part of your process.

Thanks again,  
Fillard