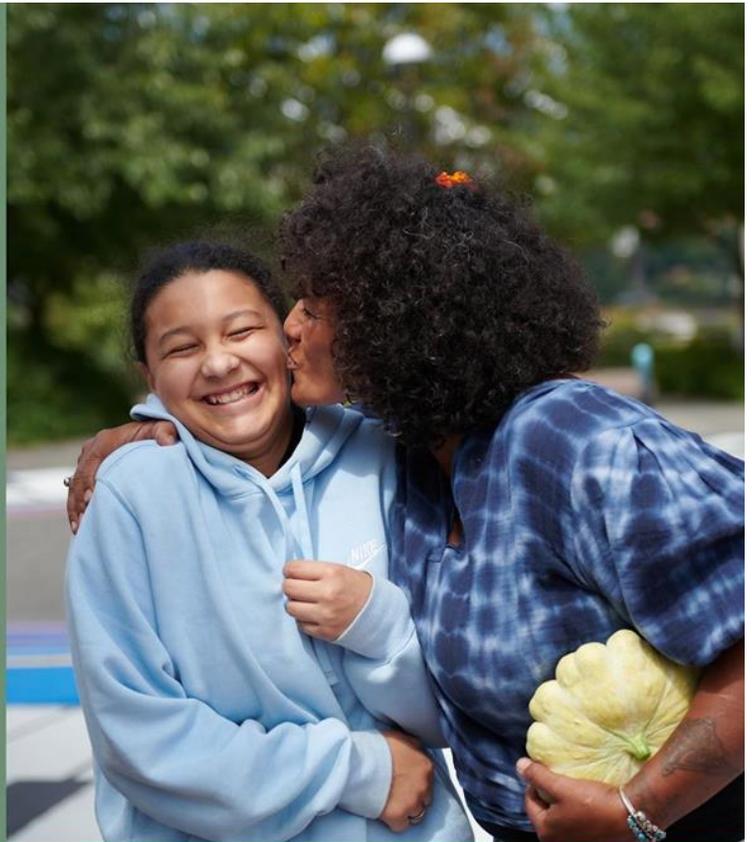


PHASE II:
PROGRESS REPORT

#1



PORTLAND CHARTER COMMISSION



September
2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
INTRODUCTION	5
Background	
Phased Approach and Timeline	
Ballot Referral Pathways	
PHASE II.....	7
Climate and Environmental Justice	
Bureau & Office Proposals	
Expansion of Voting Rights	
WHAT'S NEXT?	15
Stay Engaged	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This summary is designed to give a high-level view of the approach and work of the Charter Commission at this stage in the process.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

Any potential reforms will be evaluated based on their ability to advance these outcomes:

1. A participatory and growing democracy with more voices being heard in elections
2. An accessible and transparent government with Councilors who are easy to reach
3. A reflective government with Councilors who look like the community they represent
4. A responsive government with Councilors who understand your community needs
5. An accountable government with Councilors who answer to the people
6. A trustworthy government with Councilors who safeguard democracy

PHASE II OF CHARTER REVIEW UNDERWAY

In summer 2021, the Charter Commission decided to approach the charter review process in two phases – meaning two sets of issues and two election cycles. The Commission is currently in the second phase of the charter review process with dedicated phase II meetings having begun on June 30, 2022. Phase II is focused on three areas:

1. Climate and environmental justice,
2. Bureau and office proposals, and
3. Expansion of voting rights.

The Charter Commission created a subcommittee for each focus area.

Climate and Environmental Justice

The Commission is exploring options that would elevate or embed climate and environment justice into the charter. The subcommittee is reviewing the City of Portland's efforts around climate action and gathering input from community and city bureaus. Current work includes exploring a climate emergency declaration or statement of climate as a value, considering participatory budgeting, and recommending climate-related bureau proposed amendments. The Commission will host a community listening session in mid-September to hear from the community.

Bureau & Office Proposals

The Commission is reviewing charter amendment proposals from city bureaus and offices. The subcommittee is reviewing each of the proposals and has met with directors and staff from those bureau and offices to provide additional information. The Commission advanced a set of the proposed amendments to the City Attorney's Office for drafting. The subcommittee will continue to review proposals and, if recommended by the full Commission, they will seek solicit feedback through public comment and direct stakeholder outreach.

Expansion of Voting Rights

The Commission is discussing how to best advance the outcome of a more participatory and growing democracy with more voices being heard in elections. During community listening sessions in 2021, the Commission heard a range of accessibility barriers that limit participation in city elections. The subcommittee is tracking the November 2022 Multnomah County ballot measure related to voting rights in county elections. The subcommittee is also meeting with stakeholders to gather input on voting experiences in Portland.

CONTINUED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The important work of charter reform requires engaging Portlanders across communities, lived experiences, and backgrounds. The Charter Commission is committed to a community-driven process to inform its decision-making and an equitable, accessible, and transparent community engagement process. As each of the topic specific subcommittees consider possible charter recommendations, they want to continue to hear from the community priorities for each of these focus areas. Community listening sessions, stakeholder engagement and public comments are all strategies that are currently underway to solicit input on the various amendment considerations.

BALLOT REFERRAL PATHWAYS

There are two pathways for Charter Commission-recommended amendments to come before Portland voters. If 15 or more Commissioners agree to a recommended amendment, then the Commission can directly refer that amendment to the next primary or general election (May or November 2024). The Commission may, through a simple majority vote, recommend amendments to City Council. City Council may, but is not required to, refer the amendments to voters at an election of its choosing.

INTRODUCTION

Since December 2020, the 20-member City Council appointed Portland Charter Commission has been deeply engaged in extensive research and ongoing public and community engagement to shape and inform recommendations for amendments to the City of Portland's Charter.

This is the first progress report from the Charter Commission on its second phase of work. The purpose of the progress reports is to provide Portlanders with a general sense of where the Charter Commission is headed and provide information on the policies under consideration in a transparent and accessible way. This report represents preliminary agreements made by the Charter Commission on its phase II recommendations.

Please note that the Commission previously released six progress reports related to its phase I work. Phase I was focused on the structure of city government. At the end of charter review, the Commission will release a final report that combines its phase I and phase II work.

BACKGROUND

What is a city charter?

The city charter is a guiding document that establishes the government system and structure of a city. It defines how the government is set up, how city leaders are elected, and the roles and responsibilities of those leaders. The city charter functions as the city's constitution – it creates the city as a legal entity, authorizes city powers, and outlines the broad basic fundamentals of city government. Portland's city's charter can be amended **ONLY** by a vote of the people.

What is charter review?

The city charter requires that, at least once every ten years, City Council appoint a 20-member Charter Commission to review and recommend changes to the charter. City Council appointed the current Charter Commission in December of 2020.

So, what's the process for making changes to the city charter?

There are 20 Charter Commissioners participating in the review process. If 15 or more agree to a recommended change, those recommendations go directly to the ballot for Portlanders to vote on. If 11 to 14 Commissioners agree to a recommended change, then those recommendations go to City Council. City Council will decide whether to refer those recommendations to the ballot as-is, modify them, or do nothing. Again, it is only by a **vote of Portlanders** that the charter may be changed.

PHASED APPROACH & TIMELINE

In summer 2021, the Charter Commission decided to approach the charter review process in two phases – meaning two sets of issues and two election cycles. Phase I focused on the structure of city government. The Commission finalized its phase I recommendations, and that proposal will be on the November 2022 ballot for Portlanders to consider.

The Commission is currently in the second phase with dedicated phase II meetings having begun on June 30, 2022. Phase II is focused on three areas:

1. Climate and environmental justice,
2. Bureau and office proposals, and
3. Expansion of voting rights.

BALLOT REFERRAL PATHWAYS

There are two pathways for Charter Commission-recommended amendments to come before Portland voters. If 15 or more Commissioners agree to a recommended amendment, then the Commission can directly refer that amendment to the next primary or general election (May or November 2024). The Commission may, through a simple majority vote, recommend amendments to City Council. City Council may, but is not required to, refer the amendments to voters at an election of its choosing – including a 2023 election.

However, the Commission recognizes that Special Elections (those that occur outside of May and November elections of even-numbered years) have significantly lower voter turnout than primary and general elections (those in May and November of even-numbered years). Of the five previous Special Elections (November 2021, May 2021, August 2020, November 2019, and May 2019), only two had a City of Portland election and voter turnout was less than 40% for both (August 2020 - 39.57% and November 2019 - 34.86%) as a comparison in the November 2020 general election 83.88% of Portlanders voted. The Commission set as a desired outcome for charter review, a participatory and growing democracy with more voices being heard in elections.

PHASE II

The Commission began phase II on June 30, 2022. The first task was to determine focus areas for phase II. Potential focus areas came from a variety of sources, including public comments, partner-hosted listening sessions, Commission-hosted listening sessions, community organization policy discussions, city bureau director discussions, city elected leader discussions, city bureau and office proposals, and Charter Commissioners.

The range of topics considered included climate and environmental justice, participatory budgeting, the role of the Auditor's Office and Auditor-proposed amendments, community safety and police accountability, campaign finance reform and governance, bureau and office proposed amendments, expanding voting rights, reviewing the Prosper Portland charter chapter, service alignment and bureau coordination, increased access to information and civic engagement and education, infusing equity and core values throughout the charter, and government transparency and access to public records.

The Commission then evaluated the potential focus areas against a set of criteria

- Is there community momentum to take on this topic, including topics that derive from the Commission's phase I work?
- Does it advance one or more of the Commission's desired outcomes?
- Is it at the right level for charter review? Is there another body or group taking on this topic?
- Can we afford to wait another 10 years to take on the topic?
- Can we clearly communicate why we chose the topic?
- Is there sufficient community, Charter Commissioner, and staff capacity to take on this topic or set of topics?

Based on its evaluation, the Commission chose three focus areas for phase II: 1) climate and environmental justice; 2) bureau and office proposals; and 3) expansion of voting rights. The Commission formed a subcommittee for each focus area.

The Commission clarified that the selection of a phase II focus area does not necessarily mean the topic will result in a ballot measure or measures. However, they are areas the Commission believes warrant further exploration.

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Current City Efforts

The Commission wanted to understand the city's current efforts around climate and environmental justice and met with Bureau of Planning and Sustainability leadership.

Some efforts of note include the 2020 Climate Emergency Declaration, the Climate Emergency Workplan, and the creation of a new commission focused on sustainability and climate. City staff told Commissioners that the city's Climate Emergency Workplan has been updated to be more reflective of the current work with community around climate justice and to move from aspirational goals to committed bold targets. The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability leads the city's climate and sustainability work and is collaborating across city bureaus to achieve the outcomes and target goals set forth in the workplan.

In June 2020, Portland City Council recognized the accelerating climate emergency and acknowledged that it affects Portland communities inequitably. Council passed the Climate Emergency Declaration (CED), which contains many ideas, aspirations, directions, and goals for the city to tackle the climate emergency that was created with input from 50 community and environmental organizations community and using a climate justice lens. You can find the 2021 first

year progress report [here](#). Below are the Climate Emergency Declaration commitments that could help the Commission shape its recommendation.

- Seeks to support and advance climate justice and establishes a new, ongoing climate justice initiative that will provide a framework for government and community to partner to identify and implement strategies that advance a shared vision for climate justice and action.
- Pursues partnerships with youth-serving organizations to support a youth-led summit on climate in 2020.
- Amends the City's emission reduction targets to at least 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and net-zero carbon emissions before 2050.
- Expands community ownership of renewables and drives down emissions from commercial and multi-family residential buildings.
- Requires transportation justice, where projects and policies reduce carbon emissions while advancing racial equity. City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Climate Emergency Declaration One-Year Progress Report 8
- Commits the City to work with Metro and TriMet to fund a year-round transit pass for all Portland youth.
- Commits the City to adopt new policies that reduce carbon from buildings and the transportation sector, including becoming an EV-ready city that prioritizes action, benefits and protections for renters and low-income residents.
- Commits the City to adopt new policies that prevent further expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure and speed up the transition to clean, renewable fuel options.
- Commits the City to update protections and enhance tree canopy, especially in East Portland, to address public health risks and urban heat islands.
- Directs the City to require "demand management" and close collaboration with BIPOC communities before any future freeway construction or expansion.
- States the City Council's expectation that PGE and PacifiCorp deliver 100% clean, renewable electricity to all Portland residents and businesses no later than 2030, and calls on NW Natural to fully decarbonize its gas pipeline no later than 2050.

Public Comment

From May 2021 through June 2022, the Charter Commission received 121 public comments related to climate and environmental justice – representing almost eight percent of all public comment. These comments point to the urgency of the climate implications happening in the city and that there is no time to wait. Many groups reiterated that the time is now to address climate in the charter and urged the City of Portland to lead on strong environmental policy focusing not only on mediation, but also adaption and resiliency.

Some common recommendations from public input included establishing a climate oversight committee or Commission, establishing a bureau or office of climate and environmental justice, establishing a bill of environmental rights and responsibilities for the city, and embedding a climate and environmental justice overlay into the charter. In addition, there was a general sense of urgency around helping the communities most effected by climate change and that any policies should prioritize and focus on frontline and underrepresented communities.

Public comment came from individuals as well as the following organizations: 350PDX, Democratic Socialists of America, Jewish Federation's Jewish Community Relations Council, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Participatory Budgeting Oregon, Portland Metro People's Coalition, Public Employees Act for Climate (PEACE), and Sunrise Movement PDX.

Community Organization Proposals

All organizations who submitted public comment were asked if they wanted to provide detailed recommendations to the Commission. Three organizations provided presentations to the subcommittee: Portland Employees Act on Climate Emergency (PEACE), 350PDX, and Sunrise Movement PDX.

Sunrise Movement PDX

Sunrise Movement PDX recommended the following: adding a binding climate test; requiring a fossil fuel phase-out; and requiring prior and informed consent for tribes on all legislation which impact them.

Portland Employees Act on Climate Emergency (PEACE)

PEACE recommended the following: creating an Office of Climate Emergency; climate as a special power and core value; Portland as a carbon emission free city and community by 2040; renewable energy alignment; protect rights of nature, right to nature; regenerative circular economy; and expanded representation for youth.

350PDX

350PDX recommended the following: creating a climate assembly; adding Portland's environmental rights and responsibilities; and requiring participatory budgeting. In addition, they are currently working on two emerging proposals related to fossil fuel phase-out and prior consent and tribal consultation.

Research Into How Other Cities Incorporate Climate Into Their Charters

Charter staff researched how other cities incorporated climate into their city charters. With very few exceptions, cities do not put climate emergency related information in charter. Instead, cities that have climate emergency requirements or actions, place those within city code. This allows the requirements, policy direction, and city authority to be more easily adapted as science, technology, and public understanding of the crisis change.

Three cities place climate-related information in their charters – Honolulu, Detroit, and New York City. However, the information in these charters is limited. Honolulu's charter describes the roles and responsibilities for their Office of Climate Change but does not include specific requirements or goals. Detroit's charter similarly requires the creation of a "Green Initiatives and Sustainable Technologies" plan but does not include specific targets. New York City includes broad goals and information about its Climate Protection Act but leaves specific actions and requirements to a climate adaptation plan, required to be developed every 10 years.

Climate-Related Bureau Proposals

The Commission also received three proposals from city bureaus that relate to climate and environmental justice:

Portland Parks & Recreation

A proposal from Portland Parks & Recreation to update language to reflect the city's and Portland Parks & Recreation's role in protecting, restoring, and enhancing natural systems and natural areas, and to mitigate against the public health, economic, and threats of climate change, biodiversity loss and invasive species.

Bureau of Planning & Sustainability

A proposal from the Bureau of Planning & Sustainability to delete the charter provision that prohibits the city from mandating weatherization of structures built before September 1, 1979, and therefore allowing opportunities for energy efficiency policy creation.

Bureau of Environmental Services

A proposal from the Bureau of Environmental Services to add specific power to the city to protect and manage natural features that convey, store, retain, infiltrate, clean or evaporate water in a manner that is necessary for the management of sewer and storm drainage.

Current Areas of Focus & Next Steps

Current climate and environmental justice work is focused on the following:

- Add a climate declaration and/or statement of climate as a core value into the charter.
- Update charter language to reflect the city's and Portland Parks & Recreation's role in protecting, restoring, and enhancing natural systems and natural areas, and to mitigate against the public health, economic, and threats of climate change, biodiversity loss and invasive species.
- Delete the charter section that prohibits the city from mandating weatherization of structures built before September 1, 1979.
- Add to the charter language that specifies the city's authority to protect and manage natural features that convey, store, retain, infiltrate, clean or evaporate water in a manner that is necessary for the management of sewer and storm drainage.
- Consider adding participatory budgeting into the charter.

The next steps are to hold a community listening on September 15th, receive drafts of the three bureau-proposed climate-related amendments from the City Attorney's Office and release them to community for input, and hold a learning opportunity for the Commission on participatory budgeting.

Bureau & Office Proposals

Charter Commissioners recognize that city bureaus and offices are on the frontlines everyday working to implement policy for the people of Portland. There are a number of things in the charter that, if adjusted, could improve the work of bureaus and offices in delivering services to Portlanders.

In 2020, in anticipation of charter review, city staff solicited charter amendment proposals from city bureaus and offices. The Commission received proposals from the Office of Management & Finance (OMF), Office of Community Technology (OCT), Bureau of Development Services (BDS), Bureau of Environmental Services (BES), Bureau of Planning & Sustainability (BPS), Portland Parks & Recreation (PPR), Office of Equity & Human Rights (OEHR), the Auditor's Office, and the Small Donors Elections program. You can read the full bureau submissions [here](#), the Auditor's Office submissions [here](#), and the Small Donors Elections program submissions [here](#) and companion memo [here](#).

The Charter Commission's Bureau & Office Proposals subcommittee met with leadership of all the bureaus and offices proposing amendments. The approach of the subcommittee was to categorize all proposals as either technical or policy, and to tackle technical proposals first while gathering additional information about the policy proposals. Some proposals were determined to be both technical and policy-oriented.

After meeting on July 20th, August 11th, and August 18th, the subcommittee identified five statuses for the bureau and office proposals:

- 1) those recommended by the subcommittee,
- 2) those considered and not recommended by the subcommittee,
- 3) those pending additional information,
- 4) those pending subcommittee review, and
- 5) those that involved policy matters that the subcommittee believes that the subcommittee and the Commission cannot prudently evaluate in the remaining term of the Commission.

On August 30th, the subcommittee presented its work-to-date to the full Commission for consideration. The full Commission considered the proposals recommended by the subcommittee and agreed to advance eight proposals to the City Attorney's Office for drafting and public comment. The recommended proposals are below.

Table 1: Recommended Bureau Proposed Amendments

Proposed amendment(s)
<p>Office of Management & Finance Charter Section 1-106. Currently tort damage settlements by the City exceeding \$5,000 need to be approved by ordinance passed by Council, and the bureau has authority to settle claims for up to \$5,000. Increase this threshold to \$25,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bureau proposed redline, page 7• Bureau Memo, page 4-6
<p>Office of Management & Finance Charter Section 7-113. Charter limits the transient lodging tax that may be imposed by the Council to 5%. Remove this limitation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bureau proposed redline, page 3• Bureau Memo, page 2
<p>Office for Community Technology Charter Sections 10-205, 10-207, 10-208, 10-212, and 10-213. Sections of the Charter regarding the granting of franchises for public utilities, such as railways, pipelines, telecommunications, and electricity and methane transmission are from 1942. Remove these outdated, detailed, burdensome and redundant requirements for franchise agreements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bureau proposed redline, page 16• Bureau memo, page 17-18
<p>Bureau of Development Services Charter Section 2-105(a)(36). One of the City's specific powers is to regulate "offensive" businesses. Remove this reference because it is undefined and vague.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bureau proposed redline, page 20• Bureau memo, page 19
<p>Bureau of Development Services Charter Section 2-105(a)(50). One of the City's specific powers is to prohibit "roaming the streets at unseasonable hours." Remove this reference because it is undefined and vague.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bureau proposed redline, page 22• Bureau memo, page 21
<p>Bureau of Environmental Services Charter Sections 2-105(a) and 11-301. Add as one of the City's specific powers and amend the City's authority regarding its sewage disposal and purification system, to include, various specific actions related to the protection and management of water, sewage and stormwater.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bureau proposed redline, page 34• Bureau memo, page 33

Portland Parks & Recreation

Charter Section 12-101.

Update language to reflect the City's and PPR's role in protecting, restoring, and enhancing natural systems and natural areas, and to mitigate against the public health, economic, and threats of climate change, biodiversity loss and invasive species.

- Bureau proposed redline, [page 28](#)
- Bureau memo, [page 27](#)

Bureau of Planning & Sustainability

Charter Section 1-108.

The Charter currently prohibits the City from mandating weatherization of structures built before September 1, 1979. Delete this prohibition, because it is expensive, cumbersome, and has effectively prevented the City from taking steps necessary to equitably reduce energy waste and carbon emissions from building stock.

- Bureau proposed redline, [page 30](#)
- Bureau memo, [page 29](#)

Note 1. Regarding Charter Section 1-106, Phase I proposal increased the threshold to \$50,000. This amendment would move forward only if phase I does not pass.

Note 2. Some of the memos and redlined linked above may contain other proposed amends, please check page number.

Next Steps

The Commission will receive drafts of the above amendments from the City Attorney's Office mid-September and the amendments will be released for public input. For proposals needing additional information or pending review, the bureau & office proposals subcommittee will continue to gather additional information and then will reconvene to continue evaluating proposals. Currently, pending review are a set of Auditor's Office proposals, the Small Donors Elections program proposal, and two bureau proposed amendments. At the next full Commission meeting in early October, the subcommittee will present any additional recommendations for full Commission consideration.

Expansion of Voting Rights

The Charter Commission set as one of its desired outcomes a participatory and growing democracy with more voices being heard in elections. The selection of voting rights expansion as a phase II priority aligns with that desired outcome and community input received by the Commission.

Community Listening Sessions

In November 2021, the Charter Commission and community partners hosted 12 community listening sessions with 283 participants. Ten of these sessions were hosted by community partners, while two were hosted by the Commission. All sessions included an educational presentation followed by small breakout groups to discuss Portlanders' lived experience with city government and two breakout group discussion questions related to voting:

1. What barriers do you or your friends, family, or community experience voting in our City Council elections?
2. What would make voting easier to participate in?

An overwhelming majority of participants in the partner-hosted listening sessions shared that accessibility was the main barrier to participating in City Council elections. Participants identified a range of accessibility barriers including voting education, voter registration, citizenship status, the process of voting, language, and location that made voting difficult or discouraging.

- A clear area participants identified as a barrier to participating in voting was a lack of voting education. Many communities did not have a foundational understanding of why voting is important or how voting can connect to the wellbeing of their communities. This directly tied to a lack of information about the city government in which participants also shared that they were not aware of who the agents were that could make their voice heard, who elected leaders are, or what they are responsible for.
- Another area participants identified as a barrier to participating in voting was voter registration. Many communities did not have the information about how to register to vote or understand why they should. Additionally, the requirements to be able to register to vote including citizenship status, proof of government-issued identification, and age were all named as barriers. The lack of home addresses for unhoused community members is also a barrier that can prevent folks from receiving a ballot or being able to register to vote.
- Citizenship status was a barrier that was heard across several organizations, in which participants shared they were unable to vote. Many participants felt that any resident of Portland should have the ability to vote, regardless of citizenship status, since they are impacted by all the decisions of elected leaders and the city.
- The process of voting was a barrier that a majority of participants highlighted. This included the timing of elections, how the process works in general, and the difficulty of processing the information on voters' pamphlets or lack of additional outlets for more information about ballot measures and candidates.
- The barrier of language for community members who don't speak English or prefer another language was a significant barrier that many participants shared impacts their ability to vote. These participants collectively agreed that more information is needed in their language presented in a culturally appropriate manner to make voters feel comfortable processing the information and understanding what they are voting for. The ballot, voters' pamphlet, and advertising about the elections should all be available in multiple languages.
- The location of ballot drop boxes was identified as a barrier, especially for communities that live in East/Southeast Portland, and those who are disabled, elderly, or working class. Participants noted that most ballot drop boxes are placed towards the inner city and there must be more drop box sites in outer regions.

In the Commission-hosted listening sessions participants shared they want all Portlanders to be enthusiastic about voting and access to voting should be increased. While Portlanders are enthusiastic about vote-by-mail, participants offered suggestions for improvements such as:

- Increase the number of ballot drop boxes
- Improve voters' pamphlets and make them available in more languages
- Permit same-day voter registration
- Don't require an address to register to vote
- Make getting a replacement ballot easier
- Expand voter access to Portland residents who are not citizens

You can read the full report of the partner-hosted listening sessions [here](#) and the Commission-hosted sessions [here](#).

The Multnomah County Charter Review Committee's Extending Voting Rights Charter Amendment

Like the City of Portland, Multnomah County's charter provides for periodic review by a Charter Review Committee. The City and County charter reviews happen to overlap this year. The Multnomah County Charter Review Committee (MCCRC) met from September 2021 to July 2022 and approved the following recommendation for the November 2022 election: *Should charter require county to extend the right to vote, including to noncitizens, to be the fullest extent allowable by law?*

The County ballot measure applies only to elections for Multnomah County officers and measures NOT City of Portland officers or measures. If approved by voters, the measure does not immediately change existing voting rights in County elections, but rather directs the County to take action to extend the right to vote as allowed by law. You can read the County ballot measure language [here](#).

Members of the Expansion of Voting Rights Subcommittee met with members of the MCCRC Equitable Representation Subcommittee to learn more about its recommendation and process. You can read the final report of the MCCRC [here](#).

The Charter Commission considers the result of the County ballot measure to be an important data point because the City and County populations and electorates significantly overlap. A successful County measure raises the question of whether Portland should consider matching the County's voter eligibility to standardize voter eligibility. Therefore, before the Charter Commission makes any final recommendations related to voting rights, it will analyze the results of the County measure.

Next Steps

The Expansion of Voting Rights Subcommittee will meet with stakeholders in the coming weeks to gather information about voting experience; perspectives on the County ballot measure; recommendations, if any, for Commission action; and community education and engagement needs. The subcommittee will then reconvene to review stakeholder input. They will also continue to track the Multnomah County ballot measure.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Charter Commission wants to continue to hear from community. There are many ways community members can [get involved](#) in charter review and give feedback including giving verbal public comment, submitting written public comment, requesting a briefing or meeting with Commissioners or staff, signing up for email updates or joining an upcoming meeting or event.

Stay Engaged

There are many ways to engage with the Commission in coming weeks, below is list of our upcoming meetings. For meeting information please check out the [events sections](#) of our website.

Anytime	Sign up for monthly Charter Commission email updates
Anytime	Learn more about the charter review process
Anytime	Submit public comment
September 13	Participatory budgeting learning opportunity
September 15	Community listening session related to climate
September 20	Climate & Environmental Justice Subcommittee meeting
September 22	Expansion of Voting Rights Subcommittee meeting
September 27	Bureau & Office Proposals Subcommittee meeting
October 3	Charter Commission meeting
October 11	Charter Commission meeting
October 18	Charter Commission meeting