

## Sample Charter Amendments

### Amendment of an existing section of the Charter (proposed by 2011/2012 Charter Review Committee):

#### **Sec. 806. Planning Commission.**

There shall be a Planning Commission, which shall have the power and duty to:

(a) After a public hearing thereon, recommend to the City Council the adoption, amendment or repeal of the General Plan, or any part thereof, for the physical development of the City.

(b) Exercise such control over land subdivisions as is granted to it by the City Council.

(c) Make recommendations concerning proposed infrastructure improvements and redevelopment activities in support of planned land uses.

(d) Exercise such functions with respect to zoning and land use as may be prescribed by ordinance, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter.

(e) Review all other land use issues as may be prescribed by ordinance, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter.

The City Engineer, City Attorney, and Community Development Director or their assistants, may meet with and participate in the discussions of the Planning Commission but shall not have a vote.

### Proposed new section of the Charter (proposed by 2011/2012 Charter Review Committee):

#### **Section 811. Commission on Sustainability.**

There shall be a Commission on Sustainability which shall have the power and duty to advise the Mayor and City Council on matters of sustainability as it pertains to environmental stewardship, economic development, and regional advantages as a means of pursuing a higher quality of life. The powers and duties of the Commission shall be as follows:

- (a) To act in an advisory capacity to the City Council on all matters pertaining to the general principals and goals of sustainability, including environmental mitigation/enhancement and economic development;
- (b) To assemble information on issues and their solutions for sustainability through all available means including public hearings;
- (c) To be empowered on its own initiative to make recommendations to the City Council on all matters within its purview;
- (d) To act to facilitate coordination between existing and proposed programs for community and economic sustainability;
- (e) To carry out such studies as may be assigned to it by the City Council; and,

- (f) To, from time to time, report to the Mayor and City Council its findings.
- (g) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as vesting the Commission, or any member thereof, with supervisory powers over the actions or duties of City employees or the operations of City Departments, or other Boards or Commissions, or in any way granting any authority or discretion which would supersede or conflict with authority otherwise vested in the City Council or any other Board, Commission or body by this Charter, State or Municipal law.