

City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: NOVEMBER 2, 2021

- FROM: CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE WARDS: ALL
- SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF TIME FOR CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER CHARTER AMENDMENT REFERRALS REGARDING THE INTERNAL AUDITOR

ISSUE:

Extending the Charter Review Committee's time by 3 months to consider one charter amendment referral: (1) publication of an annual report on written complaints or whistle-blower complaints alleging fraud, waste, abuse, or criminal conduct, to be considered for placement on the November 2022 ballot.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council extend the Charter Review Committee's time to February 2022 to consider the Charter amendment referral of a publication of an annual report on written complaints or whistle-blower complaints alleging fraud, waste, abuse, or criminal conduct and subsequent recommendations on the Inspector General position to be considered for placement on the November 2022 ballot.

DISCUSSION:

On July 21, 2020, the City Council referred 2 topics to the Charter Review Committee 1.) the publication of an annual report on written complaints or whistle-blower complaints alleging fraud, waste, abuse, or criminal conduct, to an ad hoc Charter Review Committee; and 2) the mayoral vote for consideration for placement on the November 2021 ballot. On February 3, 2021, the Charter Review Committee ("Committee") was convened to discuss the referred matters.

As of February 16, 2021, the City Council referred a third amendment to the Committee for immediate review to meet the November 2021 ballot deadlines, the General Fund Transfer. As this was a timely matter, the Committee's focus was on the General Fund Transfer thus delaying the topic of a publication of an annual report on written complaints or whistle-blower complaints alleging fraud, waste, abuse, or criminal conduct and the mayoral vote.

Due to the critical timeline and time devoted to the General Fund Transfer, the City Council approved an extension request by the Committee on May 5, 2021 for the remaining topics of the mayoral vote and the publication of an annual report on written complaints or whistle-blower complaints alleging fraud, waste, abuse, or criminal conduct. While the Committee's designated ad hoc committee began collecting information on the publication of an annual report, it was agreed upon that the City could benefit from an Inspector General position to provide Page 2

transparency and oversight to the City in addition to an annual publication. The ad hoc committee presented an update to City Council at the September 7, 2021 meeting to which City Council asked a total of 26 questions, requiring additional time and research.

The Charter Review Committee is requesting that City Council approve one final extension of three months, ending February 2022, to conclude the amendment of the publication of an annual report on written complaints or whistle-blower complaints alleging fraud, waste, abuse, or criminal conduct and subsequent recommendations on the Inspector General position. The Committee feels that such an important topic be given the adequate time necessary to provide a comprehensive recommendation. If approved, the ad hoc committee will bring a thorough report to the full Charter Review Committee at their November 17, 2021 meeting for discussion. This will allow the month of December 2021 and January 2022 for the ad hoc committee to assemble a final report to present to City Council in February 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

Prepared by:

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Submitted by:

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