

4V13

(GENERAL)

COMPTROLLER FILE NUMBER **281277**

C.P.D. 104845 PROPOSED CHARTER

C.B. No. 96511 OF
THE CITY OF SEATTLE PREPARED BY THE SEATTLE BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS, ELECTED MARCH 26, 1974, FOR SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE.

C/w May 26, 1975 - pres. begins to place issue on the general election
AUG 18, 1975 approved.

FILED APRIL 3, 1975

C. G. ERLANDSON
COMPTROLLER AND CITY CLERK

BY D. F. Fenton DEPUTY

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL

REFERRED	TO
APRIL 7, 1975	C/W
REFERRED	TO
REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION
AUG 18 1975	Salt is approved for submission to the electors at the Nov. 4, 1975 General Election
RE-REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

Your Committee OF THE WHOLE Committee

to which was referred the within PROPOSED CHARTER

would respectfully report that we have considered the same and respectfully recommend that

THE SAME BE APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION TO
THE ELECTORS AT THE NOV 4, 1975 GENERAL ELECTION

CHAIRMAN

James Williams

CHAIRMAN

35.00.

FREEHOLDERS' CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WASHINGTON)
COUNTY OF KING) SS
CITY OF SEATTLE)

We, the undersigned, Freeholders of the City of Seattle, elected on the 26th day of March, 1974, pursuant to the laws of the State of Washington, for the purpose of preparing a new Charter for the City, and being empowered by the Constitution and laws of the State to present alternate articles or propositions for the choice of the voters, do hereby certify that we have prepared and do hereby propose the foregoing Charter, including an alternate provision concerning election of six councilmembers by districts, for adoption by the voters of the City of Seattle. We hereby certify the following questions for submission to the voters of the City:

Shall the ^{proposed} ~~revised~~ ^{new} Charter for ~~The~~ City of Seattle submitted by the Board of Freeholders be adopted?

For ^{New} ~~Revised~~ Charter
Against ~~Revised~~ Charter

Shall ^{a combination of} six councilmembers ~~be elected~~ from districts and three at large ^{instead of} all nine councilmembers being elected at large?

For ^{be elected} District Elections
Against District Elections

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this _____ day of _____, 1975.

JAMES U. BEHREND
VIRGINIA K. GUNBY
WALTER HUBBARD
GLEN G. HUDSON
BILL, OLWELL

ANN ORMSBY
GEORGE I. PATTEE
KAREN RAHM
NORMAN B. RICE
EDWARD F. RILEY

E. MIKE RODOSOVICH
MIKE RUBY
JANE SYLVESTER
JOE A. TALLER
HELEN B. WEST

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this _____ day of _____, 1975.

NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State of Washington, residing at _____

Approved as to form:

DAVID L. BELLER
Of Preston, Thorgrimson,
Ellis, Holman & Fletcher
Attorney for Freeholders



Post Office Box 12646
Seattle, Washington 98101

on Seattle City Government

"Politics in the public interest"

May 26th, 1975

SamSmith, President
Seattle City Council
1100 Municipal Building
Seattle, 98104

Dear Councilman Smith,

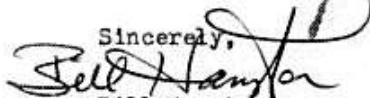
The CHECC Board believes Seattle voters should have the earliest opportunity to vote on the proposed charter and alternative article prepared by the Board of Freeholders. We feel the best interests of the electorate will be served with a vote on the primary ballot in September rather than on the general election ballot in November.

The Board takes this position because the process has already run more than a year and a half since the City Council formally declared their support for drafting of a new charter and the election of Freeholders. We fail to see any compelling reason for delaying a vote at this time.

While CHECC believes the voters are very competent in making hard and important decisions we also recognize the reasonable limits of the voters to sustain the required level of interest in such a complex issue as a new charter. CHECC supports the primary election date of September 16th when there will be no other ballot issues for the voters to evaluate.

We feel the charter issue is of such significance that paramount concern should be with the election circumstances that will give the voters the best opportunity for understanding the charter and discussing the merits of the proposed alternative article. We feel Sept. 16th meets this need.

Sincerely,


Bill Harrington
Chairman

SEATTLE BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS

611 Alaska Building • 618 Second Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104 • (206) 583-6530

ANN S. ORMSBY
CHAIRPERSON

JOE A. TALLER
1ST VICE-CHAIRPERSON

HELEN B. WEST
2ND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

JAMFS U. BEHREND

VIRGINIA K. GUNBY

GLEN C. HUDSON

WALTER HUBBARD

BILL OLWELL

GEORGE I. PATTEE

KAREN RAHM

NORMAN B. RICE

EDWARD F. RILEY

E. MIKE RODOSOVICH

MIKE RUBY

JANE SYLVESTER

April 18, 1975

Mr. Sam Smith, President
City Council
Municipal Building

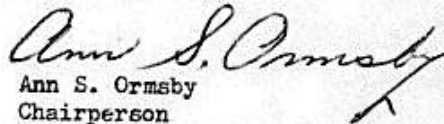
Dear Mr. Smith:

Enclosed is a corrected and improved index for the City Charter which was submitted by the Board of Freeholders on April 3, 1975.

We hope it will be possible for this index to be substituted for the one which was attached to the charter at the time it was submitted. This new index is a part of the charter now being printed for public distribution.

We believe that all necessary corrections in the charter text and index have now been made. Thank you for your cooperation.

Very sincerely,


Ann S. Ormsby
Chairperson

ASO/sm

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The CHARTER
of
The CITY of SEATTLE

Prepared by the Seattle Board of Freeholders for
submission to the voters of the city.

APRIL 3, 1975

COMPTROLLER AND CITY CLERK
JAMES LINDSEY

75 APR 3 AM 9:38

FILED
CITY OF SEATTLE

SEATTLE BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS

611 Alaska Building • 618 Second Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104 • (206) 583-6530

April 3, 1975

ANN S. ORMSBY
CHAIRPERSON
JOE A. TALLER
1ST VICE-CHAIRPERSON
HELEN B. WEST
2ND VICE-CHAIRPERSON
JAMES U. BEHREND
VIRGINIA K. GUNBY
GLEN G. HUDSON
WALTER HUBBARD
BILL OLWELL
GEORGE I. PATTEE
KAREN RAHM
NORMAN B. RICE
EDWARD F. RILEY
E. MIKE RODOSOVICH
MIKE RUBY
JANE SYLVESTER

To the People of Seattle:

In March of 1974 you elected fifteen freeholders to prepare and propose a new city charter for the city of Seattle.

The Board of Freeholders began its work with a study of Seattle city government. As a part of this study meetings were held with all of the city's elected officers, with the heads of the city's various administrative departments and with officials from other governmental agencies. In addition, comments and advice from many local experts on government were received.

Charters from other cities representing alternative forms of municipal government were reviewed. Information from officials and citizens' groups in other cities on the effectiveness of their city governments was solicited.

At all times throughout the process a conscious effort was made to reach out and involve the citizens in the charter-writing process. Thirty community meetings were held during the year in all areas of the city to receive public input on what should be included in the charter. Eight public hearings were held during the year on key charter issues.

Through mailings, specially written articles, questionnaires in the daily papers, numerous speaking engagements and many television and radio programs the freeholders attempted to inform and hear from as many citizens as possible about their work.

After months of deliberation and revision 5,000 copies of a draft charter were published on February 9 of this year. Comments from a wide variety of civic, political, business and professional groups as well as from a large number of individual citizens were received. The three public hearings and community meetings held on this draft

April 3, 1975

alone brought out scores of interested citizens. The final draft is the culmination of 118 meetings and the result of extensive research and deliberations.

Freeholder debates have reflected the wide range of political and philosophical views held by the citizens of Seattle. Each freeholder brought to the task a sense of personal dedication to the development of the charter and devoted innumerable hours to the effort.

This document contains an entire new city charter which includes a provision for at large elections for councilmembers. Also included is an alternative provision for electing councilmembers through a combination of six councilmembers elected by districts and three councilmembers elected at large. It will be necessary for each voter to cast two votes: one "for" or "against" the new charter which includes the at large method of election of councilmembers; and one "for" or "against" six councilmembers elected from districts and three at large. A majority of votes "for" district elections will replace at large elections in the main body of the charter.

Please read the charter. Share it with your friends and neighbors. The council will place the basic charter and the alternative measure on the ballot sometime later this year. The freeholders have finished their work. Now it is submitted to you for your decision.

Very truly yours,

The Seattle Board of Freeholders

Ann S. Ormsby
Ann S. Ormsby, Chairperson

Joe A. Taller
Joe A. Taller, 1st Vice-Chairperson

Helen B. Nest
Helen B. Nest, 2nd Vice Chairperson

James U. Behrend
James U. Behrend

Virginia K. Gunby
Virginia K. Gunby

Walter T. Hubbard
Walter Hubbard

Glen G. Hudson
Glen G. Hudson

Bill Olwell
Bill Olwell

George I. Pattee
George I. Pattee

Karen Rahm
Karen Rahm

Norman B. Rice
Norman B. Rice

Edward F. Riley
Edward F. Riley

E. Mike Rodosovich
E. Mike Rodosovich

Mike Ruby
Mike Ruby

Jane Sylvester
Jane Sylvester

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CERTIFICATE OF FREEHOLDERS

BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS' PERSONAL DATA

CHARTER SUMMARY

The following is an article by article summary of the proposed Seattle City Charter:

ARTICLE ONE grants the city all power possible under the state law and allows the city to coordinate with other governments.

ARTICLE TWO names the elected officials for the city. All elected officials will be elected to four-year terms on a nonpartisan basis with a limit of three full consecutive terms. Recall, removal and vacancies in elected offices are also covered in this article.

ARTICLE THREE describes the power and duties of the mayor as the head of the executive branch. The mayor is given the power to reorganize city government with the concurrence of the council. Qualifications, appointment and removal of department heads is set forth. Department heads serve at the pleasure of the mayor rather than serving for a specified term. There is also provision for the development of uniform administrative procedure and appeals of those procedures.

ARTICLE FOUR outlines the duties of the legislative branch which is the policy-making body of the city. Nine councilmembers are elected at large by position (see the ALTERNATIVE PROVISION 420 which provides for six councilmembers elected by district and three at large). The council is prohibited from interfering in the administrative operations of the city except in the conduct of legislative duties. The city clerk who is charged with keeping city records is appointed by the council. The council is required to meet with citizens at least four times a year to hear and respond to their questions.

ARTICLE FIVE provides for the election of a city attorney who represents the city in all legal proceedings. The mayor and council are permitted to appoint special counsel to advise them and who may represent them in legal proceedings should the city attorney decline to do so.

ARTICLE SIX prescribes the manner in which ordinances, emergency ordinances, initiatives and referenda are to be handled. Ordinances take effect ten days after enactment. Emergency ordinances expire after sixty days. In order to certify initiatives, eight percent signatures are to be collected within one hundred eighty days. In order to certify referenda, six percent signatures are to be collected within forty-five days. Citizens may also submit ordinances to the council on the basis of a petition bearing two percent signatures. (All percentages refer to the total vote cast in the last mayoral election).

ARTICLE SEVEN protects the public interest by providing for an ombudsman, a planning process, a code of ethics, and procedures for publication of public notices.

ARTICLE EIGHT provides for a director of finance who is appointed by the mayor and for a city auditor who is appointed by the council to review the performance of the executive branch and the handling of city funds. The process for adoption of the budget, goals and policies is outlined in this article.

ARTICLE NINE establishes a personnel system and civil service for the city employees. The executive will administer the rules for the personnel and civil service in accordance with council ordinance drafted pursuant to merit principles. An independent civil service commission is made the appeals board for city employees. Labor negotiations and collective bargaining rights are guaranteed by this article.

ARTICLE TEN allows for charter amendment. Periodic mandatory review of the charter is required.

ARTICLE ELEVEN sets forth general provisions for purchasing, contracts, bids, franchises, claims against the city, and the establishment of a retirement system for city employees.

ARTICLE TWELVE describes the process of transition of the 1946 charter to this one.

ALTERNATIVE PROVISION 420 provides for a combination method of electing councilmembers and the details of a districting system. Six councilmembers will be elected by district and three at large. This section will be voted on separately at the same time the charter is voted on and a majority affirmative vote will change the manner in which councilmembers are elected from at large to district.

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The CHARTER
of
The CITY of SEATTLE

Preamble

We, the people of Seattle, Washington, adopt this city charter in order to establish a representative government:

Able to promote the general health, safety and welfare of the community;

Open to all views and responsive to the needs of its citizens;

Competent to manage its resources wisely.

1 ARTICLE 1

2 BOUNDARIES AND POWERS

3 Sec. 110 Incorporation and Boundaries

4 The City of Seattle shall continue to exist as a municipal
5 corporation with boundaries as now established or as subsequently
6 changed.

7 Sec. 120 Powers

8 The city shall have all powers possible for a charter city
9 to have under the constitution and laws of this state as though
10 they were specifically enumerated in this charter.

11 Sec. 130 Interpretation

12 The powers of the city under this charter shall be construed
13 liberally in favor of the city, and the specific mention of
14 particular powers in the charter shall not be construed as limiting
15 the general powers stated in this article. References to adoption
16 of ordinances by the council shall not be construed as impairing
17 the mayor's veto power or the right of the people to initiate or
18 refer ordinances. The word "law" shall mean the constitution and
19 laws of the State of Washington unless the context indicates
20 otherwise.

21 Sec. 140 Intergovernmental Relations

22 In the exercise of its powers or in the performance of its
23 duties, whether or not specifically assigned by this charter to
24 any officer, board, commission or agency, the city may by ordinance
25 authorize participation in any function, project or activity with
26 any one or more governments, governmental agencies, municipal
27 corporations, or private agencies or corporations in any manner
28 permitted by law, and may share the responsibilities and costs

1 of such function, project or activity.

2 Sec. 150 Nondiscrimination and Civil Rights

3 In the exercise of its powers or in the performance of its
4 duties the city shall ensure that no person is discriminated
5 against because of race, creed, political ideology, color, national
6 origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, age, the presence
7 of any sensory, mental or physical handicap, or any other basis
8 not reasonably related to the accomplishment of a legitimate govern-
9 mental purpose, and shall take whatever affirmative action is
10 necessary to accomplish this purpose. The city shall ensure that
11 the civil and constitutional rights of all persons are not denied
12 or abridged.

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ARTICLE 2

ELECTED CITY OFFICERS
AND
ELECTION PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

Sec. 210 Elected City Officers

The elected city officers shall be the mayor, the nine members of the council, and the city attorney. The terms of the elected city officers shall be four years.

No elected officer shall be eligible to be elected to more than three full consecutive terms in the same office. For purposes of this provision different positions on the council shall not be considered different offices.

Any person who is a qualified resident voter of the city shall be eligible for elective office, except as otherwise provided in this charter. All elected officers shall serve on a full-time basis.

Sec. 220 Procedure for Elections

All elections for the nomination and election of elected city officers shall be conducted on a nonpartisan basis in accordance with the laws of the State of Washington, city ordinances, and the provisions of this charter.

Sec. 230 Campaign Practices and Expenditures

The council shall by ordinance provide for the regulation of campaign practices and expenditures, contributions to candidates and ballot issues, and penalties for violations. The ordinance shall impose limitations on campaign contributions and expenditures and require that contributions and expenditures are fully disclosed to the public in a timely manner prior to and after the election. The ordinance shall prohibit the use of any facilities of public office in the support of any campaign.

1 A willful violation of the ordinance by the candidate shall
2 disqualify the candidate from taking office.

3 Sec. 240 Recall and Removal

4 Any person who holds an elective office may be recalled by
5 the voters of the city as provided by law and may be removed from
6 office for conviction of a felony or malfeasance in office as
7 provided by law.

8 Sec. 250 Vacancies

9 An elective office shall become vacant on the death, resigna-
10 tion or removal of the officer, or for other causes as provided by
11 law.

12 Vacancies in elective office shall be filled at the next
13 general city or state election, unless the vacancy occurs after
14 the last day for filing declarations of candidacy, in which case
15 the vacancy shall be filled at the next succeeding general city or
16 state election. The person elected shall take office upon certifi-
17 cation of the results of the election and shall serve for the
18 remainder of the term.

19 In the interim prior to the certification of the results of
20 an election, vacancies in elective offices, except that of mayor,
21 shall be filled by a vote of the council.

22 Upon a vacancy in the office of mayor, the president of the
23 council shall become mayor and shall serve until the certification
24 of the results of an election; provided, that if the president of
25 the council is unable or unwilling to become mayor, an interim
26 mayor shall be chosen from among its own members by a vote of the
27 council.

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1 Sec. 260 Oath of Office and Bonds

2 An oath or affirmation to support the constitutions of the
3 United States and the State of Washington and the charter and
4 ordinances of the City of Seattle, and to perform faithfully,
5 impartially, and honestly the duties of office, shall be made by
6 each elected officer before entering upon the duties of office.

7 A surety bond shall be required for all elected officers and
8 such city employees as may be designated by ordinance. Bonds
9 shall be in the form and amount required by ordinance.

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1 ARTICLE 3

2 EXECUTIVE BRANCH

3 Sec. 310 The Mayor

4 The mayor shall be the head of the executive branch, chief
5 of law enforcement, and chief administrative officer of the city.
6 The mayor shall make certain that the laws and ordinances and this
7 charter are faithfully executed and shall be responsible for and
8 accountable to the people for the executive branch of the govern-
9 ment.

10 The mayor may propose ordinances for consideration by the
11 council. The mayor shall have the power to veto ordinances
12 adopted by the council as provided by this charter, and shall sign,
13 or cause to be signed, on behalf of the city, all deeds, contracts,
14 and other instruments.

15 At the beginning of the mayor's term, the mayor shall prepare
16 and present to the council a four-year plan for his term of office.
17 The mayor shall also appear before the council four times each year
18 at quarterly intervals to provide information and answer written
19 questions concerning the administration of city affairs as the
20 council may require.

21 Sec. 320 Absence or Temporary Incapacity

22 The mayor may authorize the council president to act as
23 mayor during any absence of the mayor from the city. In the
24 event of temporary incapacity of the mayor, the council president
25 shall act as mayor.

26 Sec. 330 Executive Organization

27 The mayor shall have the power to organize or reorganize the
28 executive departments of the city, except that no executive depart-
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1 ment shall be created or abolished and no functions shall be trans-
2 ferred to a different department unless a reorganization plan has
3 first been presented to the council. The council shall have the
4 power to reject but not to modify or amend the plan, provided that
5 no plan shall be rejected without a written statement of the reasons
6 for such rejection. Any plan which has not been rejected by a
7 two-thirds vote of the council within ninety days after presentation
8 shall become effective.

9 "Executive departments" shall mean all departments of the
10 city, including those providing staff services, except those which
11 by this charter are subject to the direction of elected officials
12 other than the mayor or by this charter are subject to the direction
13 of officers appointed by elected officials other than the mayor.

14 Sec. 340 Executive Department Heads

15 The heads of all executive departments shall be appointed by
16 the mayor and confirmed by a vote of the council. In the event
17 that the council refuses to confirm the nominee of the mayor, the
18 mayor shall nominate another person and shall continue to nominate
19 until a person shall be confirmed.

20 The heads of executive departments shall be persons qualified
21 by education, training, or experience to perform the duties of such
22 offices.

23 The heads of executive departments shall serve at the
24 pleasure of the mayor. The mayor may remove the head of any
25 executive department by filing a statement of the reasons in
26 writing with the council. Whenever the mayor shall remove an
27 executive department head, the vacancy shall be filled in the
28 same manner as the original appointment.

1 Sec. 350 Administrative Proceedings

2 The council shall by ordinance provide procedures for admini-
3 strative rule-making and adjudication which shall ensure that due
4 process is accorded to all persons affected. The ordinance shall
5 include a procedure for appeal of administrative decisions to an
6 appellate authority which is independent of the mayor and the
7 council.

8 Ordinances authorizing administrative rule-making shall
9 contain definite legislative policies on which rules shall be
10 based. Administrative determinations shall be based on definite
11 standards contained in ordinances or rules.

12 Administrative rules of general application shall be compiled,
13 indexed and made available to the public in the form of an admini-
14 strative code; provided, that rules which are unduly cumbersome
15 and expensive to include may be omitted if they are available
16 separately and the administrative code contains a notice of their
17 general subject matter and a statement of how copies may be
18 obtained.

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1 ARTICLE 4

2 LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

3 Sec. 410 The Council

4 The legislative power of the city not reserved to the people
5 or the mayor shall be vested in the council. The council shall be
6 the representative policy-making body of the city. The council
7 shall make certain that legislative policies are faithfully, effi-
8 ciently, and effectively implemented by the mayor and are achieving
9 their desired objectives. The council shall exercise its powers
10 by the adoption and enactment of resolutions and ordinances.

11 Sec. 420 Composition and Election of the City Council

12 The council shall consist of nine members elected by position
13 number from the city at large for four-year terms. Four members
14 shall be elected at the regular mayoral election and five members
15 at the nonmayoral election.

16 Sec. 430 Rules and Organization of the Council

17 The council shall by ordinance adopt its own rules and
18 organization. The council shall elect a president from among its
19 members who shall preside at all council meetings and enforce the
20 rules of the council.

21 A journal of all council proceedings and a record of the
22 votes cast by individual councilmembers shall be kept as a public
23 record.

24 The council may appoint staff to draft ordinances and for
25 such other purposes as it deems necessary.

26 A majority of the council shall constitute a quorum at all
27 council meetings. Council actions shall require at least a
28 majority of the entire council except in cases requiring a two-

1 thirds vote, in which case the affirmative votes of two-thirds
2 of the entire council shall be necessary.

3 Sec. 440 Investigations and Hearings

4 The council may by resolution authorize investigations on
5 matters of public concern and for this purpose may subpoena
6 witnesses and require the production of evidence, provided that
7 any witness shall have the right to be represented by counsel. The
8 council as a whole or by committee may conduct public hearings
9 on matters of public concern.

10 Sec. 450 Meetings to Hear Questions

11 The council shall hold special meetings at least twice each
12 six months for the purpose of hearing and responding to questions
13 raised by citizens on any matter relating to city affairs. These
14 meetings shall be held in public meeting places after normal
15 working hours.

16 Sec. 460 Prohibition on Interference in Administration

17 Except in the course of performing its legislative functions
18 under this charter, the council, its staff, and the individual
19 councilmembers shall not interfere in the administration of the
20 executive branch or give orders to or direct, either publicly or
21 privately, any officer or employee subject to the direction and
22 supervision of the mayor or other elected official.

23 Sec. 470 City Clerk

24 The council shall by ordinance create the office of the city
25 clerk within the legislative branch and provide for the powers and
26 duties of the office.

27 The city clerk shall be appointed by the council and shall
28 serve at the pleasure of the council. The clerk shall be the

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1 custodian of the official seal and of all records and documents
2 of the city which are not assigned by law to the custody of some
3 other officer. The clerk shall keep the journal of council
4 proceedings, maintain a current and comprehensive index of all
5 ordinances, resolutions and administrative rules, regulations
6 and procedures, maintain a record of the current status of all
7 proposed legislation, and perform such other duties as may be
8 assigned by ordinance.

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ARTICLE 5

CITY ATTORNEY

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Sec. 510 City Attorney

The city attorney shall be a person qualified and admitted to practice law in the State of Washington and shall be elected at a nonmayoral election. The city attorney shall organize the office of the city attorney and appoint the assistant city attorneys who shall serve at the pleasure of the city attorney.

Sec. 520 Duties of City Attorney

The city attorney shall be the legal advisor of the city and shall supervise and conduct litigation in which the city has an interest and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by ordinance or this charter.

Sec. 530 Special Counsel

The mayor or the council may employ special counsel to advise them in their official capacity on such matters as they deem necessary. Special counsel may represent the mayor or the council if the city attorney declines to do so.

1 ARTICLE 6

2 LEGISLATION

3 Sec. 610 Regular Ordinances

4 Every legislative act shall be by ordinance.

5 The subject of every ordinance shall be clearly stated in
6 the title, and no ordinance shall contain more than one subject.
7 Ordinances or summaries of them, the places where copies are filed,
8 and the times when they are available for inspection, shall be
9 published when the ordinances are proposed and again upon enact-
10 ment.

11 No ordinance shall be amended unless the new ordinance sets
12 forth each amended section or subsection at full length.

13 Ordinances may, by reference, adopt Washington State statutes,
14 or any printed codes or compilations in whole or in part.

15 At least thirteen days shall pass between the introduction
16 and the final passage of every ordinance, except emergency
17 ordinances. Every ordinance shall be introduced in its entirety
18 in writing.

19 Every ordinance which passes the council must be presented
20 to the mayor. If approved by the mayor, the ordinance shall be
21 signed by the mayor and become law. If not approved by the mayor,
22 it shall be vetoed and returned with the mayor's written objections,
23 which shall be entered in the journal of council proceedings. If,
24 within thirty days after being returned to the council, the
25 ordinance receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the
26 council, it shall become law. If the mayor does not either sign or
27 veto an ordinance within ten days (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays
28 excepted) after presentation of the ordinance by the council, it
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1 shall become law without the mayor's signature. The mayor's veto
2 power with respect to budget and appropriation ordinances shall
3 include the power to reduce the amount of or to eliminate particu-
4 lar items, as well as the power to veto the entire ordinance.

5 Except as otherwise provided in this charter, all ordinances
6 shall take effect ten days after the date they are signed by the
7 mayor or otherwise enacted or at a later date if stated in the
8 ordinance.

9 Sec. 620 Emergency Ordinances

10 To meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property
11 or the public peace, an ordinance may be passed by a two-thirds
12 vote of the council, which shall be effective immediately when
13 approved by the mayor. No emergency ordinances may levy taxes,
14 grant, renew or extend a franchise, regulate the rate charged by
15 any utility or authorize the borrowing of money for more than one
16 hundred twenty days. An emergency ordinance shall be introduced
17 and passed in the manner prescribed for ordinances generally,
18 except that the emergency and the facts creating it shall be
19 stated in a separate section of the ordinance. The provisions of
20 every emergency ordinance except one making appropriations from an
21 emergency reserve or borrowing money for one hundred twenty days or
22 less shall expire as of the sixty-first day following the date on
23 which the ordinance became law.

24 Sec. 630 Initiative and Referendum - Summary of Procedure

25 The initiative and referendum process shall begin with the
26 presentation of a petition to the city clerk for registration.
27 Upon approval of the ballot title and the registration of a petition,
28 the time period for gathering signatures shall begin. If petitions
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1 with sufficient signatures are filed within the appropriate time
2 limit, the measure shall be transmitted to the council to be placed
3 on the ballot or enacted by the council.

4 Sec. 640 Petitions

5 The council shall by ordinance establish the form of peti-
6 tions for the initiative and referendum and for charter amendments,
7 establish a procedure for the approval of ballot titles, and
8 regulate the circulation and signing of petitions.

9 Upon presentation of a proposed petition, the city clerk
10 shall determine within three days (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays
11 excepted) whether the petition is in proper form and shall notify
12 the sponsors in writing. If the petition is not in proper form,
13 the clerk shall refuse to register the petition and return it to
14 the sponsor with a detailed written explanation of the defects.
15 Upon the determination that a proper petition has been presented
16 and upon approval of the ballot title, the petition shall be
17 registered.

18 If the final date for the filing of a petition falls on a
19 Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date shall be extended to
20 the next working day of the city clerk. The council may by
21 ordinance provide that a sampling procedure may be used in veri-
22 fying whether a sufficient number of signatures has been obtained.

23 Sec. 650 Initiative

24 Any ordinance or amendment to any existing ordinance may be
25 proposed to the people by filing with the city clerk a registered
26 petition bearing the signatures of qualified voters equal in number
27 to not less than eight percent of the total votes cast for the
28 office of mayor in the general municipal election last preceding the
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1 date of the registration of the petition. Petitions shall be filed
2 not more than one hundred eighty days following registration. Upon
3 verifying the sufficiency of signatures the clerk shall transmit
4 the petition to the council. The council shall then place the
5 proposed ordinance before the voters at the next general city or
6 state election, or at a special election unless the petition shall
7 designate the general election; provided that at least ninety days
8 shall pass between the filing of a sufficient petition and the
9 election. If the proposed ordinance is enacted at any time prior
10 to the election, it shall not be placed on the ballot or voted on
11 unless it is subjected to referendum.

12 Any ordinance which is approved by a majority of the voters
13 voting on the issue shall be adopted.

14 Any ordinance so adopted shall become effective ten days
15 after certification of the results of the election unless a later
16 date is specified in the ordinance. No ordinance enacted as a
17 result of initiative shall be amended or repealed within two years
18 after enactment except as a result of a subsequent initiative or
19 referendum or except by an ordinance adopted by a two-thirds vote
20 of the council.

21 The council may not propose ordinances to the people.

22 Sec. 660 Referendum

23 Any ordinance or any part of an ordinance, other than an
24 emergency ordinance, may be referred to the people by filing with
25 the city clerk a registered petition bearing the signatures of
26 qualified voters equal in number to not less than six percent of
27 the total votes cast for the office of mayor in the general elec-
28 tion immediately preceding the date of registration of the petition.

1 The petition shall be presented to the clerk for registration
2 within seven days after the ordinance is signed by the mayor or
3 otherwise enacted and a petition containing sufficient signatures
4 shall be filed not more than forty-five days following registra-
5 tion. Upon presentation to the city clerk of a proper petition for
6 registration the ordinance so referred shall be suspended and with-
7 out force of law until the clerk shall determine that petitions
8 with sufficient signatures have not been filed within the allotted
9 time, or until the voters ratify and approve the ordinance. Pre-
10 sentation of a petition which is not in proper form shall satisfy
11 the requirement for presentation within seven days but shall not
12 suspend any ordinance. The filing of a referendum petition against
13 one or more items, sections, or parts of an ordinance shall not
14 delay the remainder of the measure from taking effect. Upon veri-
15 fying the sufficiency of signatures, the clerk shall transmit the
16 petition to the council. The council shall either repeal the
17 ordinance or part referred or place it before the voters at the
18 next general city or state election or a special election; provided
19 that at least ninety days shall elapse between the filing of a
20 sufficient petition and the election.

21 If the ordinance is rejected by a majority of the voters
22 voting on it, the ordinance shall not take effect and shall not be
23 reenacted by the council for two years thereafter.

24 The council may not refer ordinances to the people, except
25 for the purpose of amending or repealing ordinances previously
26 adopted by a vote of the people.

27 Sec. 670 Submission of Ordinances to the Council

28 Any ordinance or amendment to any existing ordinance may be
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1 proposed to the council by filing with the city clerk petitions
2 bearing the signatures of qualified voters equal in number to not
3 less than two percent of the total votes cast for the office of
4 mayor in the immediately preceding general municipal election.
5 Upon verifying the sufficiency of the signatures, the clerk shall
6 transmit the petition to the council, which shall hold a public
7 hearing on the proposed ordinance within sixty days and enact or
8 reject the ordinance within a reasonable period of time thereafter.
9 If the ordinance is rejected, no substantially identical measure
10 shall again be proposed to the council by petition within one year.

11 Sec. 680 Codification of Ordinances

12 All ordinances of the city which are of a general public
13 or permanent nature or impose any fine, penalty or forfeiture shall
14 be compiled in a code which shall be adopted by ordinance and shall
15 be known as the "Seattle Municipal Code." The code shall be kept
16 current to reflect newly adopted, amended or repealed ordinances
17 and shall be published together with this charter. A current copy
18 shall be placed in each public library in the city.

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ARTICLE 7

PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Sec. 710 The Planning Process

A planning process for the city shall be adopted by ordinance. The ordinance shall provide continuous and varied opportunities for public participation including, but not limited to, public hearings and community meetings with elected officers, and shall encourage broad public involvement in the development and implementation of plans. The planning process shall include the development of budgets and short and long range plans, goals, objectives and policies for the city, which shall serve as a guide for legislative decisions and the administration of city affairs. The planning process shall be a framework for the continuing consideration of the interrelationships between the human, economic, environmental, physical, institutional and fiscal systems of the city, and between city policies and the requirements of this charter and state and federal laws.

Sec. 720 Information to Citizens

The council shall by ordinance establish procedures which will insure publication of all notices and official proceedings as required by law and which will insure inexpensive, timely and convenient public access to all city documents and records, consistent with the requirements of law.

Sec. 730 Code of Ethics

The council shall by ordinance provide for the disclosure of financial interests by public officers, establish a code of ethics, and provide penalties for violations of the ordinance.

1 Sec. 740 Ombudsman

2 The council shall by ordinance create the office of ombuds-
3 man and provide for the powers and duties of the office. The
4 ombudsman shall be appointed by a majority vote of the council for
5 a term of five years. The ombudsman shall be subject to removal
6 for cause by a three-fourths vote of the council. The powers of
7 the ombudsman shall include, but shall not be limited to, investi-
8 gation of any act or omission of city government or its officers
9 or employees which aggrieves any person, and making and publi-
10 cizing recommendations based on findings of investigations. The
11 powers of the ombudsman shall include the power to subpoena
12 witnesses, documents and other evidence, and the power to hold
13 hearings and administer oaths.

14 The ombudsman and the staff shall be, to the full extent
15 permitted by law, immune from any suit based on any report or
16 communication made within the scope of their official duties.

17 A person who has been an ombudsman shall not be eligible for
18 any municipal elective office until two years after leaving the
19 position.
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1 ARTICLE 8

2 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

3 Sec. 810 The Budget

4 The mayor shall be responsible for preparing and proposing
5 the city budget to the council for its review, modification and
6 adoption by ordinance. Both the mayor and the council shall seek
7 citizen participation in developing and revising the budget.

8 To assist in the budgeting process, the council may present
9 to the mayor not less than two hundred seventy days prior to the
10 beginning of the fiscal year a statement of goals, policies,
11 objectives and priorities which may be used by the mayor in
12 developing the budget.

13 At least one hundred eighty days prior to the beginning of
14 the fiscal year, the mayor shall present a "state of the city"
15 annual report which shall include but not be limited to a statement
16 of the progress of the city towards the achievement of the city's
17 goals, policies, objectives and priorities.

18 All city offices and departments, and the legislative branch
19 shall submit to the mayor estimates of revenues and expenditures
20 and other documentation that may be required for the next fiscal
21 year, in the detail, form and schedule prescribed by the mayor.

22 The mayor shall submit a proposed budget ordinance to the
23 council not later than ninety days before the beginning of the
24 fiscal year. The budget shall include a statement of all funds,
25 revenues and reserves available to the city from whatever source,
26 and proposed expenditures for all city functions and programs.

27 The council may increase or reduce the estimates of revenue
28 within the budget by a motion passed by a two-thirds vote of the

1 council. The council shall not change the format of the proposed
2 budget ordinance submitted by the mayor.

3 The council shall adopt a balanced budget and present it to
4 the mayor at least thirty days before the end of the fiscal year.

5 Sec. 820 Director of Finance

6 A director of finance shall be appointed by the mayor and
7 confirmed by a majority of the council. The director of finance
8 shall, as prescribed by law, perform the duties of treasurer of
9 the city, maintain a general accounting system for city govern-
10 ment, be responsible for the collection, custody, preaudit, dis-
11 bursement and investment of funds in the name of the city and
12 perform such other duties as may be prescribed by ordinance.

13 The mayor, through the director of finance, shall issue an
14 annual report on the revenue and expenditures of the city, the
15 current financial condition and the financial objectives and
16 activities of the city.

17 Sec. 830 City Auditor

18 The council shall by ordinance create the office of the city
19 auditor within the legislative branch and provide for the powers
20 and duties of the office. The auditor shall be appointed by a
21 majority vote of the council for a term of five years. The auditor
22 shall be subject to removal for cause by a two-thirds vote of the
23 council. The duties of the auditor shall include, but need not be
24 limited to conducting an on-going audit of the financial operations
25 of city government, determining the extent to which legislative
26 policies are being faithfully, efficiently, and effectively
27 implemented by the executive branch and whether city programs are
28 achieving their desired objectives, and assisting the council

1 in its review of the budget.

2 The audit required by this section shall be in addition to
3 and not in replacement of the annual audit performed by the state.

4 Sec. 840 Investment Committee

5 The council shall by ordinance establish an investment
6 committee which shall prescribe policies and procedures in accord-
7 ance with law for the investment of city funds, except assets of
8 the retirement fund, by the director of finance. The investment
9 committee members shall be the mayor, a councilmember selected by
10 the council, and the city attorney. The investment committee
11 shall consult with experts in the field of investments, meet at
12 least quarterly and shall report the status of the city's invest-
13 ments on a semiannual basis to the council and the citizens. A
14 majority of the committee must approve any action of the committee.

15 Sec. 850 Taxation, Indebtedness and Bonds

16 The city may exercise in the manner provided by law all
17 powers granted to cities by the constitution and laws of the state
18 in the levying and collecting of taxes, the incurring of indebted-
19 ness, the issuance, refunding, and sale of bonds, and the
20 financing of its activities.

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1 ARTICLE 9

2 PERSONNEL SYSTEM AND CIVIL SERVICE

3 Sec. 910 Personnel System

4 A personnel system for the city shall be established by
5 ordinance and shall be administered by the mayor in accordance
6 with the ordinance.

7 The ordinance shall establish uniform procedures for re-
8 cruitment, selection, development and maintenance of an effective
9 and responsible work force, including, but not limited to, job ad-
10 vertising, training, job classification, examinations, appoint-
11 ments, transfer within the system, career development, salary
12 administration, labor negotiations, safety, employee benefits,
13 grievance procedures, discipline, discharge, layoff and recall,
14 regulation of political activity and other personnel matters.

15 Sec. 920 Nondiscrimination

16 The personnel system shall be administered on a nondiscrimina-
17 tory basis as required by section 150.

18 Sec. 930 Civil Service

19 All city employees shall be members of the civil service
20 except elected officers, persons holding appointive offices estab-
21 lished by this charter, assistant city attorneys, heads of execu-
22 tive departments and members of boards and commissions created by
23 this charter or by ordinance. Additional positions may be exempted
24 by ordinance approved by a two-thirds vote of the council.

25 Any person appointed to an exempt position from the civil
26 service shall have the right to return to the same or a like posi-
27 tion in the civil service upon the termination of the appointment,
28 unless removed from the exempt position for malfeasance in office.

1 Sec. 940 Merit Principles

2 The personnel ordinance shall provide that the civil service
3 shall be administered in accordance with the following merit prin-
4 ciples:

5 Recruitment, selection, transfer and advancement of
6 employees on the basis of their relative ability,
7 knowledge and skills, without regard for political
8 beliefs or activity. The recruitment and selection
9 process shall include job advertising and open
10 consideration of qualified applicants for initial
11 appointment;

12 Creation of opportunities for entry into the system
13 at all levels;

14 Creation of opportunities for entry into and advancement
15 in the system by members of disadvantaged groups;

16 Limitation of periods of probationary status to
17 one year and examination of all employees within
18 one year of employment;

19 Training of employees to assure high quality
20 performance and to encourage advancement;

21 Retention of employees on the basis of the
22 adequacy of their performance, correction of inade-
23 quate performance and separation of employees whose
24 inadequate performance cannot be corrected;

25 Assurance of fair treatment of applicants and
26 employees with proper regard for their privacy
27 and constitutional rights as citizens;

28 Assurance that employees are protected from coercion
29 or importuning for political purposes and are prohibited
30 from using their official authority for the purpose
31 of interfering with or affecting the result of any
32 election or nomination for office.

33 Sec. 950 Civil Service Commission

34 There shall be an independent three-member civil service
35 commission to hear appeals involving the administration of the
36 civil service system.

37 The commission may also submit to the mayor and the council
38 such recommendations concerning the personnel system as it deems
39

1 appropriate.

2 The members of the civil service commission shall serve
3 staggered three-year terms. One member shall be selected by the
4 mayor, one by the council, and one member shall be elected by the
5 civil service employees; all members shall be removable only
6 for cause by their selecting authority. The manner of election
7 and removal of the member representing the civil service employees
8 shall be as provided by ordinance.

9 Sec. 960 Civil Service Appeals Process

10 The commission shall establish rules for its own operation.
11 The commission shall have the power to administer oaths, issue
12 subpoenas, receive relevant evidence, compel the production of
13 documents, question witnesses at hearings which it conducts, and
14 issue such remedial orders as it deems appropriate. In any appeal
15 involving a disciplinary action the employee shall have the right
16 to cross-examine witnesses, and to ask for the attendance of
17 witnesses and production of relevant evidence. In all cases the
18 appellant or the official whose action is challenged shall have
19 the right to a public hearing and to be represented by a person
20 of his or her choice.

21 The commission may delegate to one or more hearing examiners
22 any of its powers, but a decision by a hearing examiner may be
23 appealed to the commission by either party. A record of the
24 proceedings shall be made.

25 Hearings shall be conducted on a timely basis and decisions
26 rendered within one hundred twenty days after the hearing is
27 completed. If the commission fails to decide an appeal within
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1 one hundred twenty days, unless the appellant consents to an
2 extension, the appeal shall be sustained.

3 No person shall be entitled to appeal to the civil service
4 commission if the subject of the appeal has previously been
5 the subject of binding arbitration under a labor contract.

6 Sec. 970 Suspension or Dismissal

7 No member of the civil service may be suspended or dismissed
8 from employment except for justifiable cause. A written statement
9 of the reasons for suspension or dismissal must be delivered to
10 the employee by the head of the department and filed with the
11 commission. Any employee who is suspended or dismissed shall be
12 entitled to an appeal to the commission except as provided in
13 section 960.

14 Sec. 980 Outside Employment by City Employees

15 City employees may engage in lawful outside employment to
16 the extent permitted by ordinance.

17 Sec. 990 Labor Organizations

18 The right of city employees to bargain collectively, through
19 representatives of their own choosing, shall not be abrogated by
20 the city, but no collectively bargained contract shall become
21 effective without ratification by the council. The council shall
22 not ratify any contract which is inconsistent with this charter.
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1 ARTICLE 10

2 CHARTER AMENDMENT

3 Sec. 1010 Proposed Amendments

4 The council may propose amendments to this charter by enact-
5 ing an ordinance by a two-thirds vote to submit a proposed amend-
6 ment to the voters of the city at the next general city or state
7 election occurring at least one hundred twenty days after the
8 enactment of the ordinance.

9 Amendments to this charter may also be proposed by petition,
10 in accordance with the procedures provided by ordinance pursuant to
11 section 640, by filing with the clerk a registered petition bear-
12 ing the signatures of qualified voters equal in number to not
13 less than fifteen percent of the total votes cast for the office
14 of mayor in the last general municipal election. The council
15 shall submit the amendment to the voters of the city at the next
16 general city or state election occurring at least one hundred
17 twenty days after the filing of the petition.

18 If more than one amendment is submitted, they shall be sub-
19 mitted in such a manner that the people may vote for or against
20 the amendments separately; provided that an amendment which em-
21 braces a single or interrelated subject may be submitted as a
22 single proposition even though it be composed of changes to
23 different sections of one or more articles.

24 If a proposed amendment is approved by a majority of the
25 voters voting on the issue, it shall be effective ten days after
26 the results of the election are certified unless a later date is
27 specified in the petition or ordinance proposing the amendment.
28 Any implementing ordinance required by any charter amendment

1 shall be enacted by the council within one hundred eighty days
2 after the amendment is effective, unless the amendment provides
3 otherwise.

4 Sec. 1020 Mandatory Review of the Charter

5 At least every ten years after the adoption of this charter
6 the mayor shall cause the charter to be reviewed and present or
7 cause to be presented to the council a written report recommend-
8 ing those amendments, if any, which should be made to the charter.

9 Sec. 1030 Publication and Notice

10 Proposed charter amendments shall be published and notice
11 of the election shall be given in the manner required by law.
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1 ARTICLE 11

2 GENERAL PROVISIONS

3 Sec. 1110 Purchasing, Contracts and Bonds

4 The council shall by ordinance establish procedures for
5 purchasing supplies, services, materials and equipment, the
6 awarding of contracts and the sale or refunding of bonds. The
7 ordinance shall provide when bids shall be required and how invi-
8 tations for bids shall be advertised.

9 All purchases, contracts and bonds subject to bid procedures
10 shall be advertised and, unless all bids are rejected, shall be
11 awarded on the basis of sealed bids to the lowest responsible
12 bidder.

13 Sec. 1120 Franchises

14 All franchises granted by the council shall be for a fixed
15 term not to exceed twenty years and no exclusive franchise shall
16 be granted for the use of any street or public place. All
17 franchises shall be subject to the power of eminent domain and the
18 right of the council or the people acting for themselves through
19 the initiative or referendum to repeal, amend or modify the fran-
20 chise in the interest of the public; and every ordinance granting
21 a franchise shall contain a reservation of these rights. In any
22 proceeding under eminent domain the franchise itself shall have no
23 value.

24 Sec. 1130 Claims Against the City

25 All claims for damages against the city shall be filed with
26 the city clerk within the time provided by law. Claims shall
27 accurately state the time, place, cause, nature, and extent of the
28 alleged damages and give the actual residence of the claimant by
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1 street and number at the date of presenting the claim, and for six
2 months prior to the time the claim for damages accrued, and shall
3 be verified by affidavit of the claimant or such other person as
4 may be authorized by law to verify such claim. No action shall be
5 maintained against the city for any claim for damages until sixty
6 days have elapsed after filing of the claim with the city.

7 Compliance with the provisions of this section is mandatory
8 upon all claimants for damages. Neither the council nor any
9 officer, board, department or authority shall allow, make valid
10 or in any manner recognize any demand against the city which was
11 not at the time of its creation a valid claim against the city,
12 nor shall they or any of them ever allow or authorize to be paid
13 any demand which without such action would be invalid, or which
14 shall then be barred by any statutes of limitation, or for which
15 the city was never liable, and any such action shall be void.

16 Every officer who shall approve, allow or pay any demand
17 against the city not authorized by law shall be liable to the city
18 individually and on his official bond for the amount paid by the
19 city upon such demand in excess of the amount lawfully due from
20 the city.

21 Sec. 1140 Retirement System

22 The council shall by ordinance provide for a retirement,
23 death benefit, and disability pension system for city employees
24 and officers. The ordinance shall include provision for the
25 management of the assets of the retirement fund, for actuarial
26 service and investment advice, and for an annual report on the
27 status of the retirement system.

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1 Sec. 1150 Severability

2 If any provision or application of this charter is held to
3 be invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or
4 applications of this charter.

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1 ARTICLE 12

2 TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

3 Sec. 1210 Effective Date

4 This charter shall take effect on January 12, 1976, where-
5 upon the 1946 charter, as amended, shall be repealed, except as
6 provided in sections 1270 and 1280.

7 Sec. 1220 Continuation of Ordinances and Vested Rights

8 All ordinances, administrative rules and resolutions in force
9 at the time this charter takes effect, to the extent they are not
10 inconsistent with the provisions of this charter, shall remain in
11 force until amended or repealed. All rights, claims, obligations,
12 proceedings and liabilities, either in favor of or against the city,
13 and any criminal proceedings existing on the effective date of this
14 charter, shall not be affected by the adoption of this charter.
15 The power of the city to control, improve, establish, extend or
16 vacate streets and other public ways over tide or shorelands within
17 the city or into any streams or bodies of fresh water shall continue
18 and shall not be affected by the adoption of this charter.

19 Sec. 1230 Elective Offices

20 The offices of treasurer and comptroller under the 1946
21 charter, as amended, shall continue until December 31, 1976, and
22 shall thereupon be abolished. The persons holding the offices of
23 treasurer and comptroller on the date they are abolished shall be
24 entitled to be employed by the city at the salary of their former
25 office for the remainder of their terms. The corporation counsel
26 shall remain in office until a city attorney is elected and quali-
27 fied under the provisions of this charter at the nonmayoral
28 election in 1979. Unless otherwise provided, all other elected

1 officers shall remain in office under this charter until the expira-
2 tion of their terms.

3 Sec. 1240 Executive and Administrative Organization

4 The executive and administrative organization in force at
5 the time this charter takes effect, except to the extent it is in-
6 consistent with the provisions of this charter, shall continue
7 until changed in accordance with the provisions of this charter.
8 The adoption of this charter shall not affect the civil service
9 status of any officer or employee or the accrued rights of any
10 person under the city employee retirement system.

11 Sec. 1250 Boards and Commissions

12 All boards and commissions except those established by this
13 charter shall continue to function until December 31, 1976, where-
14 upon they shall be abolished unless reestablished or continued by
15 ordinance.

16 Sec. 1260 Three Term Limit

17 Terms of office begun before the election on the adoption of
18 this charter shall not be counted for purposes of the three term
19 limit on the holding of elective office imposed by section 210 of
20 this charter.

21 Sec. 1270 Civil Service Commission

22 Members of the civil service commission holding office at
23 the time of the adoption of this charter shall remain in office for
24 the remainder of their terms and shall constitute the civil service
25 commission established by section 950 of this charter. The terms
26 of office of the commissioners selected pursuant to this charter
27 shall begin as follows: the council shall select the member
28 whose term begins first; the city employees shall select the member

1 whose term begins at the expiration of the term of the member
2 presently selected by the city employees; the mayor shall select
3 the third member. The civil service commission shall exercise the
4 authority granted by the 1946 charter, as amended, until the
5 ordinance required by section 910 of this charter takes effect.

6 Sec. 1280 Adoption of Ordinances

7 The following ordinances required by this charter shall be
8 adopted by December 31, 1976:

9 230 Campaign Practices and Expenditures
10 350 Administrative Proceedings
11 430 Rules and Organization of the Council
12 470 City Clerk
13 640 Petitions
14 710 The Planning Process
15 720 Information to Citizens
16 730 Code of Ethics
17 740 Ombudsman
18 830 City Auditor
19 840 Investment Committee
20 910 Personnel System
21 980 Outside Employment by City Employees
22 1110 Purchasing, Contracts and Bonds
23 1140 Retirement System

24 The ordinances required by section 350 and section 910 shall
25 be proposed by the mayor and submitted to the council by September
26 1, 1976.

27 The provisions of the 1946 charter, as amended, relating to
28 purchasing and contracts, the retirement system, and the civil
29 service, shall, to the extent they are not inconsistent with the
30 provisions of this charter, remain in effect until the ordinances
31 required by sections 1110, 1140 and 910, respectively, take effect.

32 The provisions of the 1946 charter, as amended, relating to
the offices and duties of the comptroller and treasurer shall
remain in effect until December 31, 1976, and the provisions of
sections 470, 820 and 830, to the extent they are inconsistent
therewith, shall not take effect until January 1, 1977.

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ALTERNATIVE PROPOSITION

The Freeholders have chosen to allow the voters to decide, if the new charter is adopted, whether all councilmembers should be elected at large or whether six should be elected from districts and only three at large.

The proposed new charter (section 420) provides for the election by position of nine at large councilmembers. The following alternative section 420 provides for the election of six councilmembers by district and three by position at large.

Voting for the proposed new charter as a whole does not mean a vote for nine at large councilmembers, since that question is voted on separately.

By voting for the alternative proposition, you would be voting to substitute the combination district/at large system for the nine at large councilmembers in the proposed new charter.

By voting against the alternative proposition you would be voting to keep the provision providing for nine councilmembers elected at large.

If the proposed new charter is adopted, then the vote on the alternative proposition will decide by which method councilmembers are elected. If the proposed new charter is rejected, the alternative proposition will not constitute an amendment to the existing city charter.

ALTERNATIVE PROPOSITION

Sec. 420 Composition and Election of the Council

The council shall be composed of nine members, six elected from districts and three elected at large. Councilmembers running for district positions shall be residents of the district from which they are nominated and elected.

Districts shall be geographically compact, and be approximately equal in population so that the population of the largest district does not exceed that of the smallest by more than five percent. Subject to the foregoing requirements, each district shall to the maximum extent possible be composed of whole census tracts, and reflect ethnic, social and economic similarities. Each district shall be assigned a number.

1 By January 31, 1976, and by January 31, 1981 and by January
2 31 of each tenth year thereafter, a three-member districting
3 committee shall be appointed. The council, the mayor and the city
4 attorney shall each appoint one member. The districting commission
5 shall meet within thirty days of their appointment to appoint a
6 districting master who shall be qualified by education, training
7 and experience to draw a districting plan. In the event that any
8 appointing authority should fail to make an appointment to the
9 districting commission, the remaining members shall nevertheless
10 proceed to appoint the districting master. Should the districting
11 commission fail to appoint a districting master within thirty days,
12 the county supervisor of elections shall make the appointment
13 within ten days thereafter, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays ex-
14 cepted.

15 The districting master shall draw a districting plan for the
16 city which shall be submitted to the districting commission for
17 review. The districting commission shall have fifteen days to sub-
18 mit comments in writing to the districting master. The district-
19 ing plan shall then be submitted to the city clerk by the district-
20 ing master with any changes or corrections the master deems
21 appropriate not less than thirty days prior to the first day for
22 the filing of candidacy for the next district election. The plan
23 shall become effective upon submission.

24 At the general municipal election occurring in 1977, six
25 members of the council shall be nominated and elected by districts
26 for four-year terms. The three at large positions shall be filled
27 by the three councilmembers who received the highest number of
28 votes at their election in 1975 and who do not run for a
29

1 district position. The offices of the remaining councilmembers
2 elected to office in 1975 shall terminate. At the general
3 municipal election occurring in 1979, three members of the council
4 shall be nominated and elected by position from the city at large
5 for four-year terms.

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MINORITY REPORTS

Minority reports were submitted by:

JAMES BEHREND

VIRGINIA GUNBY

GEORGE I. PATTEE

EDWARD F. RILEY

E. MIKE RODOSOVICH

MIKE RUBY

JANE SYLVESTER

Copies of these reports are a part of the minutes of the final meeting, on March 31, 1975, of the Seattle Board of Freeholders.

FREEHOLDERS' CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WASHINGTON
 COUNTY OF KING
 CITY OF SEATTLE

We, the undersigned, Freeholders of the City of Seattle, elected on the 26th day of March, 1974, pursuant to the laws of the State of Washington, for the purpose of preparing a new Charter for the City, and being empowered by the Constitution and laws of the State to present alternate articles or propositions for the choice of the voters, do hereby certify that we have prepared and do hereby submit the foregoing Charter, including an alternate proposition concerning election of councilmembers, for adoption by the voters of the City of Seattle. We hereby certify the following questions for submission to the voters of the City:

Shall the proposed new Charter for the City of Seattle submitted by the Board of Freeholders be adopted?

For Against

Shall six councilmembers be elected from districts and three be elected at large instead of nine councilmembers being elected at large?

For Against

<u>Joseph Bell</u>	<u>Ann S. Amodeo</u>	<u>Mike Brown</u>
<u>Virginia S. Gandy</u>	<u>George P. Parks</u>	<u>Mike Ruby</u>
<u>Walter T. Hubbard</u>	<u>Karen Rahm</u>	<u>Gene B. Lybster</u>
<u>John S. Hudson</u>	<u>Norman B. Rice</u>	<u>Joe A. Jaller</u>
<u>Bill Clavelly</u>		<u>Steven S. West</u>

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 3rd day of April, 1975.

E. J. Sullivan
 NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State of Washington, residing at Seattle
Edward J. Riley

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 4th day of April, 1975.

E. J. Sullivan
 NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State of Washington, residing at Seattle

Approved as to form:
David J. Bell
 Of Preston, Thorgrimson, Ellis, Holman & Fletcher
 Attorney for Freeholders

- FREEHOLDER STAFF:
 Symone B. Scales, Administrative Assistant
 Stella S. Mitchell, Secretary-Recorder
 Allan M. Tumolillo, Research Assistant
 Michael Hunsinger, Research Assistant
 Richard S. Smith, Research Assistant
 Wayne Tanaka, Research Assistant
- CONSULTANTS:
 Dorothee S. Pealy, Charter Consultant
 John A. Donaho, Management Consultant
 Richard W. Clever, Writer

SEATTLE BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS
Personal Data

- James U. Behrend: U.W. Grad. Student in Urban Planning; Printer; CHECC; Seattle 2000; Alternatives for Washington; Municipal League; Capitol Hill Community Council and CSCCF (Board); Allied Arts, Opera Association; Washington Environmental Council.
- Virginia Gunby: State Highway Commissioner; State Toll Bridge Authority; Vice-Chairperson, Seattle 2000; Metropolitan Study; former King County Freeholder; Alternatives for Washington; Municipal League.
- Walter Hubbard: Contract Compliance Officer, Washington State Human Rights Commission; Executive Director, Project CARITAS; Chairperson, Combined Seattle Model Cities Advisory Council; Urban League.
- Glen G. Hudson: Executive Director, Bellevue Education Ass'n; Municipal League; Urban League; Executive Director, Governor's Advisory Council on Urban Affairs.
- Bill Olwell: President, Retail Clerks Union; Director, International Foundation of Health, Welfare and Education; Director, Pacific Northwest Research Foundation; Muscular Dystrophy Ass'n, Advisory Council.
- Ann S. Ormsby, Chairperson: Seattle City Councilmember, 1973; Charter Review Commission, 1967; Metropolitan Study Commission; Executive Committee, Seattle 2000; Municipal League; League of Women Voters.
- George I. Pattee: Retired City Light Supervisor; President, Association of Retired City Employees; former delegate Central Labor Council; member State Safety Code Committee.
- Karen Rahm: Director, Development Core Projects, Seattle Department of Community Development; Women's Political Caucus; League of Women Voters.
- Norman B. Rice: Director, Government Services, Puget Sound Governmental Conference; Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee, CATV; President, Northwest Minority Communications Association.
- Edward F. Riley: Former City Councilmember, State Senator and Representative; Chamber of Commerce; World's Fair Commission, ex-officio.
- E. Mike Rodosovich: Seattle Police Department; President, Public Service League; Washington Air National Guard Association; Seattle Police Officers Guild.
- Mike Ruby: Environmentalist, Seattle Department of Community Development; various city environmental organizations.
- Jane Sylvester: Council for Children and Youth; former Director, King County Probation Department; King County Council on Alcoholism; Orthopedic Guild.
- Joe A. Taller, First Vice-Chairperson: Industrial Relations Manager, Boeing; American Society of Personnel Administration; Ombudsman Selection Committee; Magnolia Community Club; Chairman, Queen Anne School Advisory Council.
- Helen B. West, Second Vice-Chairperson: Medical Assistant; Associated Republican Women; Capitol Hill Community Council; League of Women Voters; Young Republicans of King County.

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

'75 JUL 9 PM 4:48

C.F. 281277

May 27, 1975

Mr. John Harris
Corporation Counsel

Dear Mr. Harris:

Attached is Comptrollers File 281277, proposed charter of the City of Seattle prepared by the Seattle Board of Freeholders elected March 26, 1974, for submission to the voters of the City of Seattle which was considered by the Committee of the Whole at its meeting on May 26, 1975.

Following a brief discussion thereon, the Committee of the Whole by a majority vote decided that the matter be placed before the voters at the general election in November, 1975.

It is therefore respectfully requested that you prepare the necessary legislation and return the same, together with the corresponding file, at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

CLAYTON W. LEMING
Legislative Committee Assistant

Attach.

CWL:p1