

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION (CRC)
January 8, 2025 – 8:00 a.m.
Virtual via Zoom

Minutes

Commission Members Present: Jim Michaels, Chair Howard Denis Jeffrey Naftal Sherry Brett-Major David Nachtsheim Michael Persh Marvin Lynch Commission Member Absent: Dylan Presman	Councilmember Present: Councilmember Glass Staff Present: Christine Wellons, Office of the County Council Lisa Brennan, Office of the County Attorney Hope Klein, Councilmember Glass’s Office
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Commission Chair Jim Michaels called the meeting to order with a quorum at 8:03 a.m.

I. Administrative Items:

- a. Adopted agenda.
- b. Adopted minutes of the November 13, 2024 meeting.

II. Discussion with Councilmember Glass

- a. Councilmember Glass thanked the Commission and discussed the importance of the Charter in terms of institutional reforms. Councilmember Glass sponsored the 2020 Charter Amendment that increased the size of the Council from 9 to 11 members.
- b. In response to questions about Council staff, Councilmember Glass indicated he believes there should be one leader of both the central staff and the Office of Legislative Oversight. This would allow for better integration of the work of the offices in the development of legislation.
- c. Councilmember Glass encouraged the Commission to engage with the County Executive and Councilmembers. He noted that the work of the Commission is valuable and important, even when the Council does not accept a specific recommendation of the Commission.
- d. Councilmember Glass discussed with Commissioners the timing of the operating budget submission and adoption. The timeline should not be too condensed; there should be adequate time for the Council to perform its review.
- e. In response to questions about special taxing districts, Councilmember Glass noted that new taxing authority would require state and local legislation.
- f. In response to questions about the County’s budget reserve policy, Councilmember Glass discussed the importance of maintaining the AAA bond rating as well as the need for flexibility to draw down on reserves when needed.

III. Additional Follow-up Items

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- a. Staff will ask the Council's Executive Director and the County Executive's Office to identify staff who can answer additional questions about special taxing districts.
- b. Staff will ask Council President Stewart's office about her availability to attend a future meeting.

Next meeting will occur February 12, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 AM.