



City Charter Amendment Resident Advisory Committee

July 31, 2025

Committee Charge

Ordinance No. 5132

» A 2025 City Charter Amendment Resident Advisory Committee shall be formed to make recommendations to the Council on potential charter amendments to be considered for referral to the voters.



» The 2025 City Charter Amendment Resident Advisory Committee shall sunset on November 3, 2026.



Charter Overview

- The City Charter is Chandler's governing document—our local constitution.
- Clear, updated Charter language promotes transparency, fairness, and trust in government.
- Periodic review of the City Charter ensures it remains relevant and reflects the community's needs and evolving best practices in municipal governance.

Charter Overview

A city charter defines the organization, powers, functions and essential procedures of the city government and serves as the organic law of the city

Arizona Constitution, Article 13 § 2

“Any city containing a population of more than 3,500 may frame a charter for its own government consistent with, and subject to, the Constitution and the laws of the state...”

“May be amended by amendments proposed and submitted by the legislative authority of the city to the qualified electors thereof...at a general or special election and ratified by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon...”

Charter Overview

- Charters and charter amendments take effect **upon certification of election results and approval by the Governor**
- Charter cities can be preempted by state law in the same manner as general law cities if the legislature finds an issue to be of statewide concern



Arizona Charter Cities

AVONDALE	BISBEE	FLAGSTAFF	GLENDALE
GOODYEAR	MESA	NOGALES	PEORIA
PHOENIX	PRESCOTT	SCOTTSDALE	TEMPE
TUCSON	WINSLOW	YUMA	CASA GRANDE
CHANDLER	DOUGLAS	HOLBROOK	LITCHFIELD PARK

Charter Overview

- Chandler voters first approved the City Charter in 1965
- Chandler's Charter was last amended in 2015
- City Council has referred two Charter amendments to the ballot in a **Charter Amendment Election** to be held on Nov. 4, 2025.

 **Proposition 410** would amend Article II, Section 2.01 of the Chandler City Charter regarding the eligibility of a person to serve terms in the offices of councilmember and mayor.

 **Proposition 411** would amend Article III, Sections 3.01 and 3.02 of the Chandler City Charter regarding the appointment and removal of the city manager.

Charter Overview



1. Powers of the City
2. City Council
3. City Manager
4. Administrative Departments
5. Finance and Taxation
6. Boards and Commissions
7. Nominations and Elections
8. Initiative, Referendum, and Recall
9. General Provisions
10. Succession in Government

Potential Charter Amendments

<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Current Language</u>	<u>Potential Revision</u>
2.02	Compensation and expenses	Increase in compensation shall not become effective until after the next election following the creation of the ordinance provided the election follows the adoption by at least 6 months	• Increase becomes effective following the next election
2.05.a.1	Holding other office	Resign when take out nomination papers or 105 days before primary	• Remove 105 days • Filing of nomination papers, rather than takes out • Make consistent with A.R.S. §§ 16-311(A) and 38-296(B)
2.06.c	Filling of vacancies	30 days to fill vacancy. Special election to be	• Expand time for filling vacancy

Potential Charter Amendments

<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Current Language</u>	<u>Potential Revision</u>
2.08	Ordinance to create administrative offices and departments	Requires Council to provide for the organization, conduct, and operation of city agencies, departments, divisions, and offices by ordinance	• Authorize city manager to provide based on necessity of operations
2.12.a	Meetings	Council must meet regularly twice per month	• Require Council to meet <u>at least</u> once a month
2.13.a	Action requiring ordinance	Ordinance to establish, alter or abolish any city department, office or agency	• Eliminate ordinance requirement • Within authority of city manager based on necessity of operations

Potential Charter Amendments

<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Current Language</u>	<u>Potential Revision</u>
2.13.i	Action requiring ordinance	Ordinance to establish or change fire limits	• Eliminate ordinance requirement • Within authority of city manager
2.13.g	Action requiring ordinance	Lease of city lands for period of 3 years or more	• Eliminate ordinance requirement • Within authority of city manager
2.15	Procedure for adopting ordinances	Intro, publication, final publication	• Streamline into one action, one publication
9.03	Residence Requirements	City manager and all Department heads	• Appointed offices

Election Timelines



August 4, 2026 Primary/Special Election

2/5/26

Council Meeting to Call Election
&
Deadline to Notify County

8/4/26
Election

3/7/26

Ballot Language Due
to County

November 3, 2026 General/Special Election

5/7/26

Council Meeting to Call Election
&
Deadline to Notify County

11/3/26
Election

6/6/26

Ballot Language Due
to County

Thank you!

