

Memorandum

To: Multnomah County Charter Review Committee

From: Juan Carlos Ordóñez, committee member

Re: Revisions to proposed Charter Section 12.40 Amendment

Date: June 7, 2016

This memorandum attaches a revised, proposed Amendment to Charter Section 12.40, which establishes how the members of the Multnomah County Charter Review Committee (MCCRC) are selected.

The revision addresses what I believe to be all of the issues and concerns that fellow committee members have raised regarding this proposal. The revised Amendment:

- Maintains the current structure whereby State Senators and Representatives select the members of the MCCRC, as well as the requirements of geographical and party affiliation diversity.
- Limits the Office of Citizen Involvement's responsibilities to promoting the opportunity to serve on the MCCRC, collecting and delivering applications to the corresponding State Senator, and convening the meetings of the MCCRC.
- Advances the goal of diversity by providing that the Office of Citizen involvement "shall endeavor to produce a diverse pool of applicants."
- Shortens the timeline as compared to the first (the entire process now takes place within the calendar year that the MCCRC is to begin work).

If adopted, this Amendment should make the opportunity to serve on the MCCRC more open and transparent, and should improve the odds of having an MCCRC that more fully reflects the makeup of the people of Multnomah County.

Proposed charter amendment

12.40. Appointment Of Committee Members.

The charter review committee shall be composed as follows:

(1) The committee shall have two electors appointed from each senatorial district having the majority of its voters within Multnomah County, and shall have one elector appointed from each senatorial district having less than a majority of its voters within Multnomah County. The committee shall choose their chairperson from among themselves and shall have authority to establish their own procedures and organization.

(2) The appointment of electors shall proceed as follows:

(a) On ~~August-January 1, 2021~~⁰, and every six years thereafter, the Office of Citizen Involvement shall begin accepting applications for electors. The Office of Citizen Involvement shall take reasonable steps to inform the residents of Multnomah County of the purpose of the charter review committee and the opportunity to serve on the committee, and shall endeavor to produce a diverse pool of applicants. Only residents of Multnomah County are eligible to serve on the charter review committee.

(b) On ~~November-April 1, 2021~~⁰, and every six years thereafter, the Office of Citizen involvement shall deliver ~~each~~^{the} applications to the state senator who represents the applicant.

~~(2)~~ (c) The state senator and the two state representatives who represent residents in each state senate district located in Multnomah County shall ~~have until February 1, 2021,~~^{until August 15, 2021,} and every six years thereafter, to appoint the electors for the district. Appointees shall reside in the district and Multnomah County. If the three appointers from any senate district cannot agree upon an appointment, any two of the three appointers may make the appointment.

~~(3)~~ (d) If two electors are appointed from a senate district ~~pursuant to section (2)(c),~~ they shall not be registered in the same political party.

~~(e) The Office of Citizen Involvement shall fill any vacancy on the charter review committee that remains after February 1, 2021, and every six years thereafter. In filling any vacancy, the Office of Citizen Involvement shall strive to have the charter review committee reflect the County's diversity. The Office of Citizen Involvement shall have until August 1, 2021, and every six years thereafter, to fill any vacancy on the committee.~~

(4) The following persons are not eligible for appointment to the committee: the state senators and state representatives who represent districts located in Multnomah County, the members of the Multnomah County board of county commissioners, and the chair of the board, if any, serving at the time of appointment.

(5) The committee ~~shall hold~~^{shall convene} its first meeting on the third Tuesday of September 2021, and every six years thereafter. The Office of Citizen Involvement shall convene the meetings of the charter review committee.

(6) The board of county commissioners shall appropriate sufficient funds for the Office of Citizen Involvement to carry out its duties herein.

~~(5) Any vacancy in the committee shall be filled by the senator and representatives from the senate district who had authority to make the original appointment.~~

~~(6) Original appointments shall be made by August 30, 2003, and every six years thereafter.~~