

RULES, ELECTIONS, AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to a Chief Legislative Analyst and Charter Reform Commission reports relative to recommendations for amendments to the City Charter, in accordance with Ordinance No. 188303.

The Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee (Committee) met seven times in the course of a month to deliberate on the entire docket of Charter Reform recommendations submitted by the Charter Reform Commission (CRC), City Departments, and Motions from multiple Councilmembers.

On June 12, 2026 and June 15, 2026, the Committee considered the Chief Legislative Analyst report dated June 10, 2026, relative to the 2026 Charter Reform proposals along with many of the Motions introduced by members of the City Council. The Committee concurred with many of the CLA recommendations and proposed their own recommendations. The Committee dictated that the actions taken on the CLA recommendations that correspond to the standalone Motions introduced by members, be made applicable as actions to those Motions.

After consideration and having provided multiple opportunities for public comment, the Committee moved the CLA report as amended to the full City Council.

Additionally, please see the CLA's attached table summarizing the Committee's disposition of the recommendations for reference. This matter is now submitted to the Council for its consideration.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. DETERMINE that the Charter amendments to be presented for the November 2026 ballot are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines sections 15378(b)(5) (organizational or administrative activities of governments) and 15061(b)(3) (common sense exemption).

## **Present to Voters in November 2026 Ballot**

### ***Public Works***

2. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to remove references to the existing Bureaus of the Department of Public Works in the Charter (Section 507). (CRC 1)
3. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with Charter Reform Recommendation (CRC) No. 1 to change Section 581 and 582 to empower the Director of Public Works and better define this role in relation to the Board of Public Works. (CRC 1)
4. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to allow any changes relative to the Board of Public Works, to be enabled by ordinance.

5. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to establish a Capital Improvement Program within the Charter with the parameters, governance, and administration of the program and capital planning process, to be established by ordinance. (CRC 2)
  - Upon voter approval of this amendment, request the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance related to the creation of a Capital Improvement Program.

### ***Recreation and Parks***

6. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend Charter Section 593 related to the Charter-mandated minimum allocation for the Department of Recreation and Parks, as follows (CRC 4):
  - Increase the RAP's budget allocation to 0.0485% of assessed property value;
  - Phase the increase to the RAP's budget over a period of four years;
  - Allow suspension of up to 30 percent of Charter-mandated funds if City declares a fiscal emergency
7. Instruct the CAO and RAP to report with recommendations for setting a time-limited requirement of a percentage of this increase to be dedicated to capital improvements.
8. Instruct RAP and CAO to coordinate a working group to engage the County in preparation for a possible 2028 ballot measure, in order to ensure a fair share of funding for the City in any Countywide measure or by doing our own measure to identify revenue for our park systems and programs. (CRC 4)

### ***Planning***

9. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 6 to restructure the Area Planning Commissions into a new Neighborhood Appeals Commission consisting of seven members, and allow the Commission to consider issues *de novo* in appeals. (CRC 6)
  - Instruct the Planning Department to report on the impacts of the proposal on the approval of affordable housing projects.
10. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 7 that amends Section 245(e) to create a 30-day time limit for the City Planning Commission or Neighborhood Appeals Commission to concur with or dissent from Council upon remand and after Council asserts jurisdiction. The Commissions' action on remand shall be referred to Council for a final vote and the Council must act within 21 days or the action of the Commission becomes final. (CRC 7)
11. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 8, which deems a General Plan Amendment (GPA) approved by the City Council if the Council does not act within 75 days of the City Planning Commission and Mayor's approval of the GPA. (CRC 8)

12. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 9 which grants Council the authority to exceed the existing FAR of 13:1 via ordinance. (CRC 9)
13. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 10 to streamline quasi-judicial decisionmaking. (CRC 10)
  - Request the City Attorney to consult with the Department of City Planning to identify the details that can be moved into ordinance, including those pertaining to the Office of the Zoning Administrator, to create more flexibility for the Planning Department.

### ***Budget and Finance***

14. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to remove Charter Section 104(g) related to the Business Enterprises restriction in the Charter. (CRC 11)
15. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend Charter Section 291 to include the “Chief Financial Officer” role and debt management duties among the powers and duties of the CAO. (CRC 13)
16. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to indicate that the City shall operate on a biennial budget cycle encompassing a period of two consecutive fiscal years, unless otherwise stated by ordinance or resolution that is adopted by the Council or Mayor. (CRC 59)
  - Instruct the CAO and City Attorney to report if there are other Charter amendments that are necessary to effectuate the two-year budget.

### ***Ethics and Elections***

17. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 27 to prohibit a member of the Ethics Commission and the Executive Director of the Ethics Commission from running for City office or LAUSD Board of Education office for at least five years following the expiration of the term of office. (CRC 27)
18. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 32 that increases the monetary penalty for an Ethics violation to the greater of \$15,000 for each violation, or three times the amount for which the person improperly reported or contributed. This maximum amount should be adjusted according to CPI. This should not include the provision as proposed by the CRC that prohibits the use of campaign funds to pay for violations. (CRC 32)
19. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 38 to remove several provisions in Section 803 concerning the Los Angeles Unified School District and add these references to the Los Angeles Municipal Code. (CRC 38)
20. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend Section 461(a) to change the signature requirement for referendary petitions from 10 percent to 15 percent. (Rules #5)

### ***Neighborhood Councils***

21. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the following provisions in the Charter related to Neighborhood Councils (CRC 47 - CRC 53):
- Update the title of Section 905 to “Initial Implementation of the Plan”;
  - Change the title of Section 907 to “Advance Notice and Opportunities for Input”;
  - Capitalize “Neighborhood Council” throughout the Charter;
  - Replace the word “Citizen” with “Civic” participation throughout Article IX;
  - Replace the word “officers” with “Board Members” in the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment’s Charter provisions; and, capitalizes references to “Neighborhood Councils”
  - Update the title of Section 904 to “Development and Maintenance of Neighborhood Council Plan; and, capitalizes references to “Neighborhood Councils”; and,
  - Remove provisions in the Charter stating that Neighborhood Council membership is open to “everyone who lives; works or owns property in the area”and replaces this with “stakeholders,” which will be further defined by ordinance; and capitalizes references to “Neighborhood Councils”

### ***Police and Fire***

22. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to consistent with the recommendations in CRC 54, with the following additional language (CRC 54):

*Nothing in this section shall limit any authority of the Council otherwise conferred by this Charter, and no interference shall be drawn from this section restricting the subjects upon which the Council may legislative, including its authority establishing the policy of the Police Department, except that the Council shall not pass any ordinance that does any of the following:*

- (a) directs, prohibits, or otherwise controls the conduct of, or the deployment of personnel or equipment in a particular incident, investigation, or operation; or*
- (b) directs or otherwise controls the authority of the Chief of Police over the appointment, discharge, or discipline of specific individual employees under Sections 574 Or 1070.*

*As used in this section, “policies” mean rules, regulations, standards, procedures, or directives of general application, whether applicable to the Department as a whole or to any bureau, division, unit program, or function of the Department.*

23. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter relative to the Council’s veto of Board of Police Commissioners actions to amend Section 245 to expand the authority of the Council to veto specific actions of the Board of Police Commissioners, as follows (CRC 56):

*The Council may assert jurisdiction of an action of the Board of Police Commissioners **related to policies, regulations, procedures and programs of the Police Department** and may, by a two-thirds vote, veto the action. Upon the Council’s first veto of such an action, the Board of Police Commissioners shall have 30 days to take up the matter again and either override the Council’s veto, or modify the Board’s prior action, Awhich modification shall start the process anew. An action of the Board of Police Commissioners to override the veto of the Council shall be transmitted to the Council,*

*where it shall be taken up on second and final consideration. During the second and final consideration, the Council may veto the action by two-thirds vote and, should it do so, shall have the same authority to act on the matter as that originally held by the Board of Police Commissioners. If the Council fails to act within 21 calendar days of receiving the override transmittal, the original action of the Board of Police Commissioners shall become final. Further, Council shall have independent policy authority to act on an item if the Board of Police Commissioners fails to act on an item returned to the Board for reconsideration within 60 days.*

***This additional authority applies only in matters related to polices, regulation, procedures and programs of the Police Department. This would not apply to matters related to the deployment of personnel or equipment in particular incident, investigation or operation, or to matters related to the Chief's authority over the appointment, discharge, or discipline of specific individual employees under Charter Sections 574 or 1070.***

*For all other matters approved by the Board of Police Commissioners, the Council may assert jurisdiction of the action and may, by a two-thirds vote to veto those actions, which are remanded to the Board of Police Commissioners under the process that is authorized under the current language of Charter Section 245.*

*Further, clarify that the Council's power to review personnel decisions via Section 245(d)(7) is limited to Board actions related to the Police Chief and does not apply to other personnel decisions by the Board.*

24. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend Charter Section 573 related to the Inspector General of the Police Department and Section 523 related to the Independent Assessor of the Fire Department to strike any authority of the Board of Police Commissioners and Board of Fire Commissioners, by a majority vote, to direct the Inspector General or Independent Assessor not to commence or continue an investigation or audit. (Rules #2)

### ***Contracting and Procurement***

25. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 63, which allows exceptions to lowest bid requirements for critical infrastructure and software. (CRC 63)
26. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 64 to allow a contracting authority to cure technical/administrative defects as it relates to violations of campaign contribution related disclosures. (CRC 64)
27. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter consistent with CRC 65 to allow the Department of Airports, Harbor Department, and LADWP to enter into 66 year leases, subject to Council approval. (CRC 65)

### ***Personnel***

28. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend Charter Section 1005 consistent with Recommendation No. 2 in the Personnel Department's communication, dated May 26, 2026, to add language that allows for limited exceptions to be

articulated in the Civil Service Rules to evaluate candidates based on whether they meet the requirements of the position. (Personnel #2)

29. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend Charter Section 1006 to increase seniority credits for military candidates from 5 percent to 10 percent. (Personnel #3b)
30. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend Charter Sections 1003, 1004, 1013, and 1014 consistent with Recommendation No. 4 in the Personnel Department's communicated, dated May 26, 2026, to transfer administrative authority from the Civil Service Commission to the General Manager of the Personnel Department. (Personnel #4)

### ***Miscellaneous***

31. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to strengthen language access in Charter Section 103, and elsewhere in the Charter as appropriate. This Charter amendment should include provisions stating that any specific obligations be created via ordinance. (CRC 39)
32. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to remove Charter Section 242(a), which pertains to the Council conduct of meetings from the Charter. (Rules #4)
  - Upon approval by the voters, request the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance that incorporates the provisions of Charter Section 242(a) related to the Council conduct of meetings into the Los Angeles Administrative Code.
33. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend Charter Section 514(b)(7) related to the ability of the Mayor and Council to reorganize the Police Department and Fire Department to remove the phrase "or character." (Rules #6)
34. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to repeal Section 104(a) related to restrictions on the City's ability to mortgage properties. (Rules #7)

### **Forwarded to Council without Recommendation (Motion Required)**

#### ***Police***

35. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to include language that requires the Chief of Police to ensure that the Police Department supports and protects the constitutional rights of all persons, specifically their rights to assemble and protest; and, includes a provision that states that the Chief of Police can directly remove officers if they have engaged in misconduct. (CRC 58)
  - This proposal is forwarded to the Council without a recommendation, pending a declaration of impasse.

### ***Elections and Ethics***

36. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to place on the November 2026 ballot a measure that would amend the Charter to grant Council the ability to introduce an ordinance that would authorize noncitizens to vote in elections for City offices and for members of the Board of Education. (C.F. 26-0638)
- This proposal is forwarded to the Council without a recommendation.

### ***Personnel***

37. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to increase the number of exempt positions in the City, as outlined in Recommendation No. 1 from the Personnel Department's reports, dated May 26, 2026 and June 11, 2026. (Personnel #1)
- This proposal is forwarded to the Council without a recommendation, pending a declaration of impasse.
38. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present the documents necessary to amend the Charter to create the option to combine Open and Promotional exam takers into a single list to allow the City to evaluate candidates from outside the City alongside internal, promotional candidates, as outlined in Recommendation No. 3 from the Personnel Department's reports, dated May 26, 2026 and June 11, 2026. (Personnel #3a)
- This proposal is forwarded to the Council without a recommendation, pending a declaration of impasse.

### **Administrative Code Changes**

39. Request the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance to amend the Administrative Code that further develops the roles and responsibilities of the Decennial Charter Review Commission, including that such Commissions begin their work no later than April 1 in a year ending in 7 beginning in 2037. (CRC 66)

### **Items for Further Study**

40. Instruct the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to report on the impacts and costs associated with bifurcating the City Attorney's Office as proposed by the Charter Reform Commission, and on the impacts and costs of establishing an Office of Legal Counsel within the Chief Legislative Analyst. (C.F. 26-0489-S7; CRC 14)
41. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer and the City Clerk, to report with an analysis of Ranked Choice Voting, Approval Voting, and any other possible voting reforms that would increase turnout and improve City elections as part of Charter reform. The analysis should include any cost associated with changing our election process and if the County will be able to administer any changes. (C.F. 26-0489-S6; CRC 22)
42. Instruct the CLA, in consultation with the Ethics Commission, to report back on the implication of the Ethics Commission having an independent counsel and how they would work with the City

Attorney's office, including in a scenario where the City Attorney's office is bifurcated. Analysis should include fiscal impact. (CRC 28)

43. Instruct the CLA, in conjunction with the City Attorney, to report with options on whether the suspension provisions for elected officers should be included in the Los Angeles Administrative Code or should be further defined in the Charter. (CRC 30)
44. Instruct the CLA to report on how the Council should fill an office in the event of a temporary vacancy that arises from a suspension pursuant to Charter Section 211. (CRC 31)
45. Instruct the CLA, in conjunction with the City Attorney, to report back with proposed ordinance language necessary to implement the recommendation in the Administrative Code. (CRC 34)
46. Instruct the CLA and CAO to report back regarding the implications and feasibility of replacing references to "matching public funds" with "public campaign financing," including identification of any unintended legal, fiscal, or policy consequences. (CRC 35)
47. Instruct the CLA, with the assistance of the City Clerk and City Attorney, to report on the impacts and costs, and alternative timeframes for requiring special elections in the event of a vacancy. (CRC 36)
48. Instruct the LAPD, CAO, CLA and City Attorney to report to the Budget and Finance Committee with an analysis of the proposal to establish a liability insurance program for sworn officers, which could be established by Ordinance. This report should include: (CRC 55)
  - A framework and implementation process for requiring every sworn LAPD officer to maintain liability insurance of not less than \$1M;
  - An analysis of available insurance providers and policy structures for providing such insurance;
  - Recommendations for establishing annual cost adjustments based on a CPI index;
  - Any legal or labor implications regarding the City's authority to require insurance coverage as a condition of employment; and
  - A fiscal analysis of the potential impact on the City's General Fund, including projected reductions in liability expenditures and settlements associated with officer misconduct claims.
49. Instruct the CAO, CLA, and City Attorney to report on proposed amendments to either the City's Financial Policies or Administrative Code to incorporate the core components required for the two-year budget (i.e., Four Year Strategic Plan, Capital Improvement Plan, Mid-Term Biennial Budget Report and related evaluation process, etc.).
  - Note and file CRC 60, inasmuch as the Mid-Term Biennial Budget evaluation process and report can be established by ordinance.
50. Instruct the City Administrative Officer, in consultation with the Chief Legislative Analyst, the Bureau of Contract Administration, the City Attorney, the proprietary departments, and any contracting departments as necessary, to report on the impacts of amending Charter Section 371(a) to allow contracts to be let to the bidder providing the best value. (CRC 61)
51. Request the City Attorney and instruct the CLA to report on the legal and operational implications of a potential Charter amendment that would expand the Board of Police

Commissioners from five to seven members, with four members to be appointed by the Mayor and three members to be appointed by the City Council. (Rules #8)

Additionally, Recommendations No. 52-58 related to CRC 5, 12, 24, 25, 43, 62 and Rules #3 are recommended by the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee, as detailed in the CLA report, for further study.

### **Note and File**

Recommendations No. 59-79 related to CRC 3, 15 to 21, 23, 26, 29, 33, 37, 40 to 42, 44 to 46, 57, and 60 (related to the inclusion of the Mid-Term Biennial Budget evaluation process and report, inasmuch as this can be established by ordinance), and Rules #1 are recommended to be noted and filed.

Recommendations No. 80-85 related to recommendations from the Black Worker's Center are recommended to be noted and filed in as much as a package of Motions will be introduced by the Council to further examine these recommendations at a later date.

Recommendations No. 86-107 are related to Motions that have been continued for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Committee on Charter Review or noted and filed, and are outlined in the CLA's attached table.