

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
CITY CHARTER OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE**

The City Council of the City of Sunnyvale, on its own motion, submits to the electors the following amendments to the City Charter of the City of Sunnyvale. The City Council has called a Special Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2013, for the purpose of voting on the City Charter amendments.

The proposed amendments to the City Charter of the City of Sunnyvale follow the statement of the measures. The provisions of the City Charter proposed to be deleted are printed as ~~strike-out~~ type, and the new provisions proposed to be added to the City Charter are printed as underlined type.

CITY OF SUNNYVALE CHARTER MEASURE _____

To help reduce the City’s elections costs through consolidation with County and State elections, shall the Sunnyvale City Charter be amended to change the City’s general municipal elections from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years, with the next general municipal election scheduled for 2016, and to provide a one time, one year extension to councilmember terms, and create a temporary one year mayoral term to enable the transition to even-numbered year elections?

Yes _____
No _____

If Measure _____ carries, the City Charter of the City of Sunnyvale shall be amended by amending Sections 601 and 605 of Article VI (The Council) and Section 1400 of Article XIV (Elections) to read as follows:

Section 601. Term and Election.

Each member of the City Council shall be elected from the City at large at the General Municipal Election for a term of four years. The term shall commence at the first regular meeting in January, at which the City Council shall certify the election results, and shall continue until a successor is elected and qualified.

The office of each member of the Council is a separate elective office to be separately filled at any election.

The person receiving the highest number of all the votes cast for a particular elective office at any election shall be deemed and declared elected to that office.

Each Council seat shall be designated by a number from 1 through 7 and shall be known as “Councilmember Seat Number_____.” The designation given to each elective office shall be used in all elections, nomination papers, certificates of election, and all other papers pertaining to such office, and to designate the incumbent of such office.

Seats numbered 1, 2, and 3 shall be filled at the General Municipal Election held in 1977 and every fourth year thereafter. Seats numbered 4, 5, 6, and 7 shall be filled at the General Municipal Election held in 1979 and every fourth year thereafter.

Commencing in 2016, Seats numbered 4, 5, 6, and 7 shall be filled at the General Municipal Election held in 2016, and every fourth year thereafter, and Seats numbered 1, 2, and 3 shall be filled at the General Municipal Election held in 2018, and every fourth year thereafter.

Notwithstanding the four year City Councilmember term limit set forth above, City Councilmembers in Seats 4,5, 6 and 7, whose term of office would have expired in January 2016 when their successors were elected and qualified, shall continue in their offices an additional year until their successors are elected and qualified at the first regular meeting in January 2017.

Notwithstanding the four year City Councilmember term limit set forth above, City Councilmembers in Seats 1, 2, and 3, whose term of office would have expired in January 2018, when their successors were elected and qualified, shall continue in their offices an additional year until their successors are elected and qualified at the first regular meeting in January 2019.

Section 605. Presiding Officer. Mayor.

At the first regular meeting in January, at which the City Council shall certify the election results, following each General Municipal Election, and at the first regular meeting in January every two years thereafter, the City Council shall select one of its members as its presiding officer, who shall have the title of Mayor. Such selection shall be by motion of the City Council. The Mayor shall have a voice and vote in all its proceedings. He/she shall be the official head of the City for all ceremonial purposes. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Charter or as may be imposed by the City Council consistent with his/her office. The Mayor shall serve in such capacity for a term of two years from and after which the appointment is made, and until a successor is selected; provided, that a person can continue to serve in the capacity of Mayor only while that person remains as a member of the City Council. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Mayor, the City Council shall select one of its members to serve as Mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Notwithstanding the two year term set forth above, in order to facilitate the transition to even year elections, the Councilmember selected to serve as Mayor at the first regular meeting in January 2016 shall serve a one year term rather than a two year term. Commencing with the January 2017 selection, the two year mayoral term will resume in accordance with the paragraph above.

The Mayor may be removed from such office prior to expiration of his/her term by a motion of the City Council adopted by the affirmative votes of at least five members of the City Council.

Section 1400. General Municipal Elections.

A regular election to fill elective offices shall be held in the City of Sunnyvale on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year, commencing with the year 2016, and the same shall be known as the General Municipal Election. All other municipal elections that may be called under the authority of this Charter, or by the general laws, shall be known as special elections.

~~There shall be a General Municipal Election to fill elective offices in the odd-numbered years on the date established under General Law for the election of governing board members of elementary school districts.~~