

City Charter Health Check – How to Review, Update, and Adapt

SPONSORED BY



MARKOWITZ

HERBOLD PC

CITY CHARTER HEALTH CHECK HOW TO REVIEW, UPDATE, & ADAPT

Patty Mulvihill, LOC Executive Director

Necessity of Regular Review.

Emerging Trends.

Yellow & Red Flags.

Processes That Work Well.

Process That Sometimes Cause Hiccups.

Session Agenda

NECESSITY OF REVIEW

Why Review?

Changes in the
Law

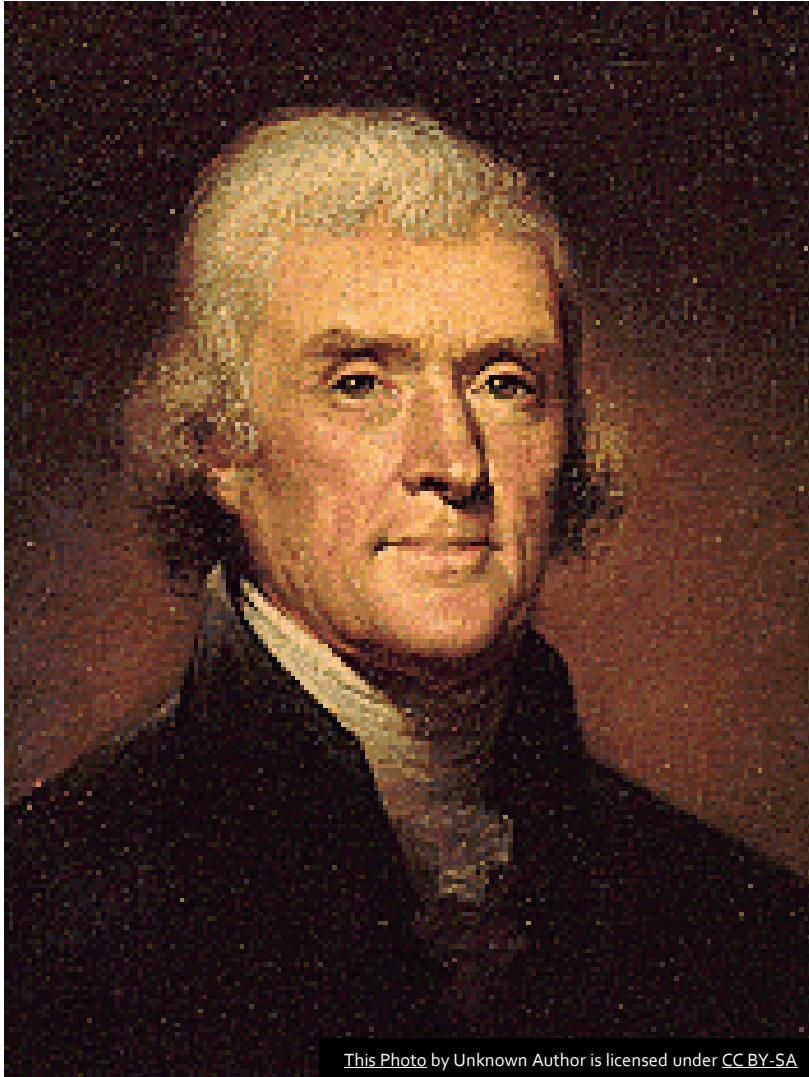
Complexity of
City Issues

Perceived / Real
Effectiveness

More
Accountability

Representation

Cyclical
Requirements



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

"I am not an advocate for frequent changes in laws and constitutions, but laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths discovered and manners and opinions change, with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also to keep pace with the times. We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him when a boy as a civilized society to remain ever under the regimen of their barbarous ancestors."

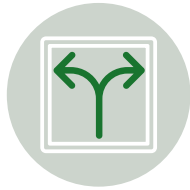
EMERGING TRENDS



Emerging Trends



TERMS OF OFFICE



ROLES



ATTORNEY/JUDGE



VACANCIES



QUORUM



HOME RULE



WARDS



COMPENSATION



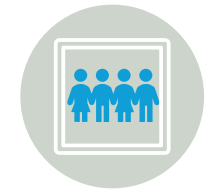
RESIDENCY
REQUIREMENT



SOCIAL EQUITY



PRIVACY / AI



YOUTH
PARTICIPATION

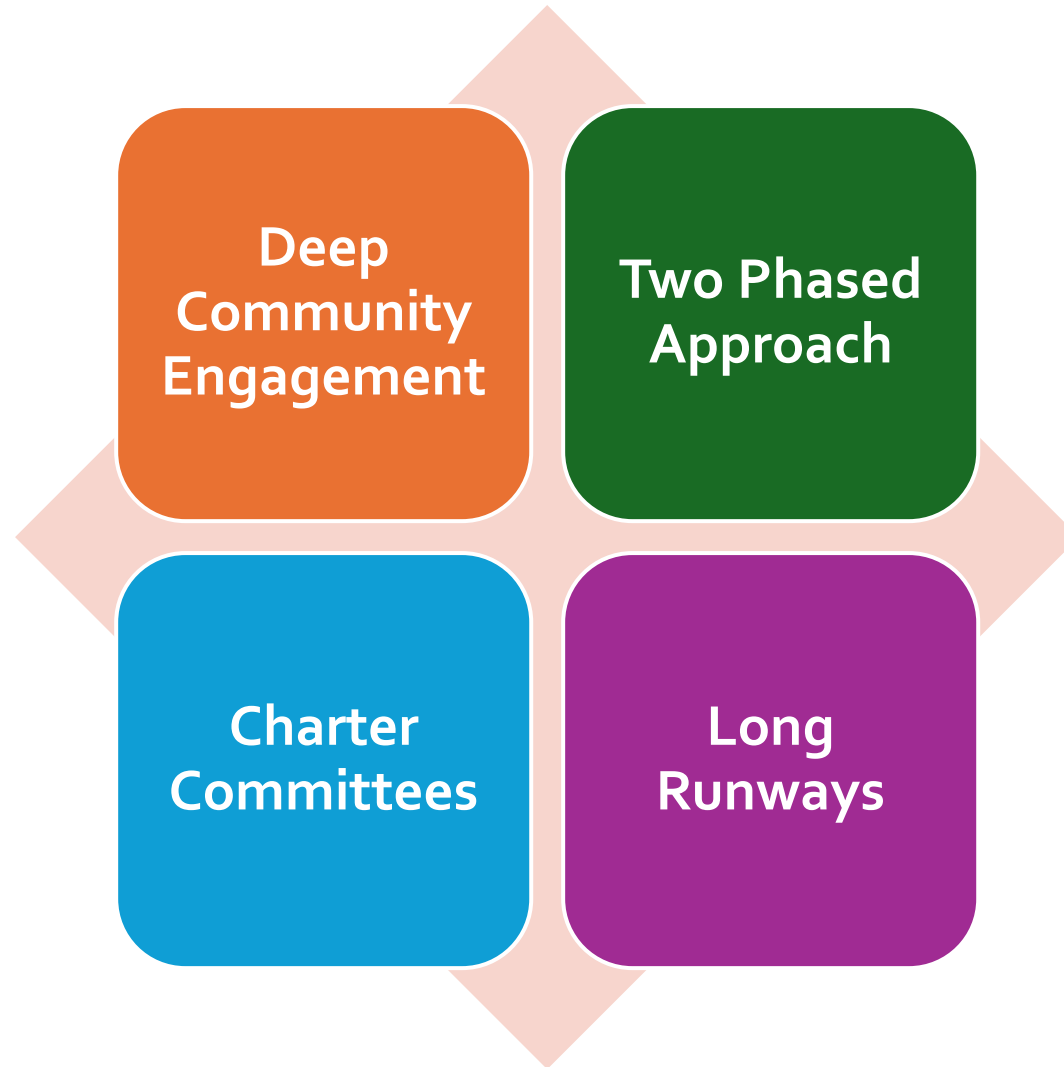
YELLOW & RED FLAGS

Yellow and Red Flags

- Terms of Office.
 - Staggered terms – potential for wholesale replacement of full council?
 - When do terms begin and end, do those match?
- Supervision of Council Employees.
 - If council has hiring and firing authority, do they also have supervision & evaluation authority?
 - Is the above true for city attorney and municipal judge – if not, who supervises & evaluates?
- Vacancies.
 - What constitutes a vacancy – do hybrid meetings from remote locations work with language?
 - Who fills the vacancy and what's the process?
 - Can vacancies remain endlessly?
- Agendas.
 - Who sets the agenda – staff, mayor, any combination thereof, what about council members?
 - Can the agenda be changed?
- Grammar & Consistent Terms.
- Specificity.

**PROCESSES THAT WORK WELL &
THOSE THAT CAUSE HICCUPS**

What Works



What Creates Hiccups

Kitchen Sink
Method

Power Grabs

Rushing

Ballot
Fatigue

Court
Battles



FINAL QUESTIONS/COMMENTS