

# PROPOSED ARTICLE IV, THE COUNCIL

## Section 4.02, Composition & Term

Present Charter	Proposed Charter	Reasoning
ARTICLE IV THE COUNCIL	ARTICLE IV THE COUNCIL	ARTICLE IV THE COUNCIL
<p>SECTION 4.02 COMPOSITION AND TERM.</p> <p>In the 1977 election, four (4) members of Council shall be elected at large for two (2) years and shall assume office on January 2 (if January 2 is a Sunday, then on January 3) following their election, and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. At the regular municipal election in 1979, four (4) members of Council shall be elected from wards and serve for two (2) years and three (3) members of Council shall be elected at large and serve for four (4) years. Elections shall be nonpartisan. Thereafter, each two (2) years, four (4) members of Council will be elected from wards; and each four (4) years, three (3) members of Council will be elected at large. Terms shall commence on January 2 immediately following the election for that position and terminate on January 1 immediately following the next regular municipal election for that position. The geographical definition of the ward areas will be balanced to the extent practicable based on numbers of registered voters and will be established by ordinance, taking effect sixty (60) days prior to the petition filing deadline for the election of members of Council by wards, to remain effective for the term of the positions. (Amended Nov. 7, 2006.)</p>	<p>SECTION 4.02 COMPOSITION AND TERM.</p> <p><del>In the 1977 election, four (4) members of Council shall be elected at large for two (2) years and shall assume office on January 2 (if January 2 is a Sunday, then on January 3) following their election, and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. At the regular municipal election in 1979, four (4) members of Council shall be elected from wards and serve for two (2) years and three (3) members of Council shall be elected at large and serve for four (4) years.</del> Elections shall be nonpartisan. <del>Thereafter, each two (2) years, four (4) members of Council will be elected from wards; and each four (4) years, three (3) members of Council will be elected at large.</del> <b>AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN 2013, AND EVERY FOUR (4) YEARS THEREAFTER, FOUR (4) MEMBERS OF COUNCIL SHALL BE ELECTED FROM WARDS AND SHALL SERVE FOUR (4) YEAR TERMS. AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN 2015, AND EVERY FOUR (4) YEARS THEREAFTER, THREE (3) MEMBERS OF COUNCIL SHALL BE ELECTED AT LARGE FOR FOUR (4) YEAR TERMS.</b> Terms shall commence on January 2 immediately following the election for that position and terminate on January 1 immediately following the next regular municipal election for that position. The geographical definition of the ward areas will be balanced to the extent practicable based on numbers of registered voters and will be established by ordinance, taking effect sixty (60) days prior to the petition filing deadline for the election of members of Council by wards, to remain effective for the term of the positions. (Amended Nov. 7, 2006.)</p>	<p>SECTION 4.02 COMPOSITION AND TERM.</p> <p>This change is to eliminate the possibility of every elected position in the City being on the ballot at the same time. As the Charter currently stands, every 4 years, all Council Members, the Mayor, and the City Attorney are on the ballot for election. There is the possibility of every elected official being newly elected which could impair the day-to-day function of the City. This will change the ward seats from 2 year terms to 4 year terms. The ward seats will not be elected in the same year as the at large seats, the Mayor, and the City Attorney.</p>