

ISSUE 6

Charter Amendment
City Administration

OFFICIAL
QUESTIONS AND ISSUES BALLOT
GENERAL ELECTION
FRANKLIN, DELAWARE AND FAIRFIELD COUNTIES, OHIO
NOVEMBER 4, 2014

**Proposed Charter Amendment
City of Columbus**

Amendment No. 1 – City Administration

(Submitted by City Council based on recommendations of the 2014 Columbus Charter Review Commission)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

The Amendment proposed by Ordinance No. 1747-2014 would amend sections 26, 32, 61, 93, 118-120, 122-124, 128, 149, 194, and 231 of the Columbus City Charter, repeal sections 121 and 133-141, and enact new sections 236-238 to, including, but not limited to:

- Prohibit the city and its agents from denying equal access to city services or equal opportunity in city employment and promotion, or the benefits thereof, on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identification or expression, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, disability, family or military status, or any other status protected by federal, state or local law.
- Require that Recreation and Parks Commission members be residents of the city of Columbus and make changes with respect to appointment of members.
- Require the appointment of a charter review commission in 2022 and each 10 years thereafter; provide that the five commission members be Columbus residents, cannot hold office or employment with the city, and cannot be paid; require the commission to make findings and recommendations to council regarding the charter for possible submission to the electorate; and require that the commission be a public body.
- Provide that the mayor's budget estimate be published as a permanent, electronic public record, rather than a copy distributed to public libraries; and require the city clerk to compile the annual report of the city and publish it

ISSUE 6

Charter Amendment
City Administration

electronically as a permanent public record, rather than in book form.

- Provide that the Sinking Fund and all references thereto shall be repealed, effective July 1, 2015; provisions related to debt obligations shall be transferred to city officials; and city investments and sales thereof shall be regulated by ordinance.
- Apply charter provisions regarding water to all city public utilities; repeal the water depreciation fund and cash deposits for utilities; require the city to set aside sufficient funds from city utility revenues, or other necessary sources, to cover the city's outstanding utility debt obligations; and update a provision permitting council to create a fund to relieve some or all of the utilities bills of non-profits located in the city and serving disadvantaged persons.
- Grant authority to incorporate strictly limited, non-substantive technical changes into the charter by unanimous vote of council, and provide that such action shall not be by emergency ordinance and shall be subject to the referendum.
- Change from one to three years the period for reinstatement of an employee in the classified service to the eligible list, who is separated from service or reduced in rank without fault.
- Reserve to the city the right to prevent unjust discrimination in service or rates if it authorizes a grant to an entity to provide public utility services.

Shall the proposed Amendment to the Columbus City Charter be adopted?

YES

NO