



## RESOLUTION NO. 41476

1 A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article II, Sections 2.3, 2.19, 2.20,  
2 and 2.25, Article VI, Sections 6.3 and 6.7, and Article IX, Section 9.2, of the  
Tacoma City Charter related to equity of access.

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

4 Section 1. That Article II, Sections 2.3, 2.19, 2.20, and 2.25 of the Tacoma

5 City Charter be amended to read as follows:

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8 **Section 2.3** – A ~~Citizen~~ Commission on Elected Salaries will determine the  
9 compensation and salary of the Mayor and each Council Member. The  
10 Commission shall set the salary and any salary changes for the Mayor and Council  
11 Members. The salary and any salary changes set by the Commission shall be  
12 adopted by the City Council.  
13

14 \* \* \*

15 **Section 2.19** – ~~Citizens~~ Residents of Tacoma may by initiative petition ask the  
16 voters to approve or reject ordinances or amendments to existing ordinances,  
17 subject to any limitation on topics in state law, by the following process:  
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19 (a) The petitioners shall file an Initiative Petition with the City Clerk.

20 (b) The City Clerk shall forward the petition to the City Attorney within one (1)  
21 working day of receipt.

22 (c) Within ten (10) working days of receipt, the City Attorney shall review the  
23 petition and make contact with the petitioner as necessary, and if the petition is  
24 proper in terms of form and style, the City Attorney will write a concise, true, and  
25 impartial statement of the purpose of the measure, not to exceed the number of  
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words as allowed under state law for local initiatives. The statement will be  
1 phrased in the form of a positive question.

2 (d) The City Attorney shall file this concise statement with the City Clerk as the  
3 official ballot title.  
4

5 (e) The City Clerk shall assign an initiative number to the ballot title and notify the  
6 petitioner that the ballot title becomes final and signature gathering may begin in  
7 ten (10) working days if there is no judicial review. Notification of the ballot title  
8 shall be posted at City Hall and on the City's web page.  
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10 (f) Persons dissatisfied with the ballot title prepared by the City Attorney may seek  
11 judicial review by petitioning the Pierce County Superior Court within ten (10)  
12 working days of the notification of the ballot title having been posted as required  
13 under (e). The Court shall endeavor to promptly review the statements and render  
14 a decision as expeditiously as possible. The decision of the Court is final.  
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16 (g) Petitions must include the final, approved ballot title, initiative number, the full  
17 text of the ordinance, or amendment to existing ordinance, that the petitioners seek  
18 to refer to the voters, and all other text and warnings required by state law.

19 (h) Petitioners have one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days to collect  
20 signatures from registered voters.  
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22 (i) The number of valid signatures shall be equal to ten percent (10%) of the votes  
23 cast in the last election for the office of Mayor.

24 (j) The City Clerk shall forward the signatures to the County Auditor to be verified.

25 Based on the Auditor's review, the City Clerk shall determine the validity of the  
26 petition. If the petition is validated, the City Council may enact or reject the



1 Initiative, but shall not modify it. If it rejects the Initiative or within thirty (30)  
2 calendar days fails to take final action on it, the City Council shall submit the  
3 proposal to the people at the next Municipal or General Election that is not less  
4 than ninety (90) days after the date on which the signatures on the petition are  
5 validated.

6 **Section 2.20** – ~~Citizens~~ Residents of Tacoma may ask that ordinances passed by  
7 the City Council, except for ordinances which take effect immediately as allowed in  
8 Section 2.13 of the Charter, or as otherwise prohibited by state law, be referred to  
9 the voters for approval or rejection by the following process:

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11 (a) The petitioners shall file a Referendum Petition with the City Clerk not later than  
12 ten (10) calendar days after the City Council approved the ordinance.

13 (b) The filing of a Referendum Petition, and progression by the petitioners through  
14 the steps outlined as follows, causes the suspension of the effective date of the  
15 ordinance.

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17 (c) The City Clerk shall forward the petition to the City Attorney within one (1)  
18 working day of receipt.

19 (d) Within ten (10) working days of receipt, the City Attorney shall review the  
20 petition and make contact with the petitioner as necessary, and if the petition is  
21 proper in terms of form and style, the City Attorney will write a concise, true, and  
22 impartial statement of the purpose of the measure, not to exceed the number of  
23 words as allowed under state law for local referendums. The statement will be  
24 phrased in the form of a positive question.  
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(e) The City Attorney shall file this concise statement with the City Clerk as the official ballot title.

(f) The City Clerk shall assign a referendum number to the ballot title and notify the petitioner that the ballot title becomes final and signature gathering may begin in ten (10) working days if there is no judicial review. Notification of the ballot title shall be posted at City Hall and on the City's web page.

(g) Persons dissatisfied with the ballot title prepared by the City Attorney may seek judicial review by petitioning Pierce County Superior Court within ten (10) working days of the notification of the ballot title having been posted as required under (f). The Court shall endeavor to promptly review the statements and render a decision as expeditiously as possible. The decision of the Court is final.

(h) Petitions must include the final, approved ballot title, referendum number, the full text of the ordinance that the petitioners seek to refer to the voters, and all other text and warnings required by state law.

(i) Petitioners have thirty (30) calendar days to collect signatures from registered voters.

(j) The number of valid signatures shall be equal to ten percent (10%) of the votes cast in the last election for the office of Mayor.

(k) The City Clerk shall forward the signatures to the County auditor to be verified. Based on the Auditor's review, the City Clerk shall determine the validity of the petition. If the petition is validated, the City Council shall immediately reconsider the ordinance, and if it does not repeal the ordinance, submit the proposal to the



1 people at the next Municipal or General Election that is not less than ninety (90)  
2 days after the date on which the signatures on the petition are validated.

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4 **Section 2.25** – The City Council shall commence a review of this charter no less  
5 frequently than once every ten years, by appointing ~~citizens~~ Tacoma residents to a  
6 charter review committee, or by the election of a board of freeholders in the  
7 manner provided in state law. Any freeholders shall be nominated and elected by  
8 position and by district. The charter review committee, which shall be provided with  
9 sufficient staff and budget to perform a comprehensive review, shall report any  
10 recommended amendments to the City Council. The City Council may accept,  
11 reject or modify the recommended amendments and may submit any  
12 recommended charter amendments to the voters in the manner provided in state  
13 law. The recommendations of a board of freeholders shall be placed before the  
14 voters in the manner provided in state law. Nothing in this section shall limit the  
15 right of ~~citizens~~ Tacoma residents to initiate amendments to this charter in any  
16 other manner allowed by state law.

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19 Section 2. That Article VI, Section 6.3 of the Tacoma City Charter be  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 \* \* \*

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23 **Section 6.3** – ~~No person shall be eligible for employment in the City service who~~  
24 ~~is not a citizen of the United States; provided that, as to laborers, this~~  
25 ~~requirement may be waived by the Human Resources Director when laborers~~  
26 ~~who are citizens are not available.~~ No person shall be eligible to employment in



1 the classified service who is not a resident of the City at the time of appointment,  
2 and all officers and employees of the City appointed after this charter takes effect  
3 shall reside within its corporate limits during their period of employment in the  
4 City service; provided, that the Civil Service Board may waive such residence  
5 requirements for employees in the classified service and the City Council may  
6 waive such residence requirements for appointive employees in the unclassified  
7 service when such waiver is deemed to be for the best interests of the City for  
8 such reasons and under such conditions as may be prescribed in the personnel  
9 rules.

10 \* \* \*

11  
12 Section 3. That Article VI, Section 6.7 of the Tacoma City Charter be  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 **Section 6.7** – No applicant for employment and no appointed officer or employee  
15 shall be discriminated against in any personnel decision on the basis of religion,  
16 race, color, national origin or ancestry, political affiliation, sex, gender identity,  
17 sexual orientation, age, familial status, honorably discharged veteran or military  
18 status, or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical ~~handicap~~disability;  
19 provided, however, that affirmative action may be used to remedy prior  
20 discrimination in the employment and promotion of City appointed officers and  
21 employees. The City Council shall periodically review, and amend as appropriate,  
22 the anti-discrimination ordinances applicable to City applicants and employees.

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Section 4. That Article IX, Section 9.2 of the Tacoma City Charter be

amended to read as follows:

**Section 9.2** – All records and accounts of every office, department, or agency of the City shall be open to inspection by any ~~citizen~~ requester, to include but not be limited to any representative of ~~any citizen's~~ organization, or any representative of the press, at all reasonable times and under reasonable regulations established by the City Council, except records and documents the disclosure of which would tend to defeat the lawful purpose which they are intended to accomplish. All such records and accounts shall be City property and be kept as such by the proper officers and employees during their continuance in office, and then delivered to their successors.

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney







## RESOLUTION NO. 41477

1 A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article II, Section 2.8 of the  
2 Tacoma City Charter to remove the prohibition upon meeting more than  
3 weekly and to increase the number of required regular meetings.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

5 Section 1. That Article II, Section 2.8 of the Tacoma City Charter be  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 **Section 2.8** – The Council shall meet at such times and places as it may  
8 determine, provided it shall hold regular ~~not oftener than once a week~~, periodic  
9 meetings at least ~~forty-six~~ seventy (4670) times each calendar year. Special  
10 meetings shall be called by the City Clerk on the written request of the Mayor  
11 or any three Council members. Such request shall state the subject or subjects  
12 to be considered at such meeting, and no other subject shall be considered  
13 thereat. Each Council member shall be given such notice that may be required  
14 by State law, but in no event less than twelve hours' notice, of the time and  
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1 place of such special meetings. All meetings of the council shall be public as  
2 prescribed by State law.

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4 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

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6 \_\_\_\_\_  
7 Mayor

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9 Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
10 City Clerk

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12 Approved as to form: \_\_\_\_\_  
13 City Attorney

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## RESOLUTION NO. 41479

1 A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article IX, Section 9.1 of the  
2 Tacoma City Charter to allow sale or other transfer of City-owned  
3 waterfront property only to other public agencies with a guarantee that  
4 the property will stay in public ownership and be used only for park  
5 purposes, park structures, or open space in perpetuity.

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

7 Section 1. That Article IX, Section 9.1 of the Tacoma City Charter be  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 **Section 9.1** – Except as otherwise provided in this charter or in state law, the sale,  
10 lease or conveyance of real or personal property belonging to the City shall be  
11 upon authorization of the Council; provided that machinery or equipment may be  
12 leased from day to day on written agreement therefore approved by the City  
13 Manager or Director of Utilities, as the case may be, and filed with the Director of  
14 Finance; provided further that, the lease of real or personal property for a term of  
15 less than a one year period without renewal options shall not require authorization  
16 of the Council. Any lease of real or personal property for a period longer than five  
17 (5) years shall contain provisions for adjustment of rentals at intervals not to  
18 exceed five (5) years. The City ~~shall never~~ may authorize the sale or disposition of  
19 any waterfront property belonging to the City solely to public agencies for the  
20 guaranteed purpose of perpetual public ownership and public access, to be used  
21 for park purposes, park structures, or open space in perpetuity and, subject to the  
22 provisions of state law, the City shall not lease waterfront property for a period  
23 longer than seventy-five years at any one time. All conveyances, contracts for sale  
24 of land owned by the City, and leases of such land for a term of longer than one  
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1 year, including any renewal options, shall be executed by the Mayor and attested  
2 by the City Clerk.

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4 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

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6 \_\_\_\_\_  
7 Mayor

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9 Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
10 City Clerk

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12 Approved as to form: \_\_\_\_\_  
13 City Attorney

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## RESOLUTION NO. 41474

1 A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to add a new Section to Article II of the  
 2 Tacoma City Charter to clarify the priorities and time investment  
 3 necessary for Council Members to carry out their duties, and authorize  
 4 the City Council to employ or contract for personnel who will directly  
 5 report to and advise or assist the Council Members.

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

7 Section 1. That Article II of the Tacoma City Charter is amended by the  
 8 addition of a new section, to be numbered by the City Clerk, and reading as  
 9 follows:

10 Section XX – Council Members shall prioritize their City Council work and  
 11 shall devote sufficient time to fully carry out their obligations and duties, and  
 12 shall have the authority to employ or contract for personnel who will directly  
 13 report to and advise or assist the Council Members.

14 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

15 \_\_\_\_\_  
16 Mayor

17 Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
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20 City Clerk

21 Approved as to form:  
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23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 City Attorney

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## RESOLUTION NO. 41475

1 A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article III, Section 3.8 of the  
2 Tacoma City Charter relating to Planning Commission composition.

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

4 Section 1. That Article III, Section 3.8 of the Tacoma City Charter be  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 **Section 3.8** – There shall be a Planning Commission, composed of ~~nine (9)~~  
7 eleven (11) members, with such powers and duties as are provided by  
8 ordinance. The ~~nine~~ eleven (11) members shall be residents of the City of  
9 Tacoma and be appointed and confirmed by the City Council for terms of three  
10 (3) years each. The Council must ensure the appointments provide for diversity  
11 of Planning Commission members. The diversity should include race, ethnicity,  
12 gender, backgrounds, experiences, and expertise and must not be over-  
13 represented in any areas of expertise or experience. The membership of the  
14 Commission shall include ~~O~~one member ~~shall be~~ appointed by the City Council  
15 for each of the five council districts. ~~The Council shall appoint to the four~~

16 ~~remaining positions an individual from each of the following:~~

17 ~~(a) the development community;~~

18 ~~(b) the environmental community;~~

19 ~~(c) public transportation, and~~

20 ~~(d) — a designee with background of involvement in architecture, historic~~  
21 ~~preservation, and/or urban design.~~

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A majority of the voting members of such Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Commission shall be authorized to adopt rules for the transaction of business not inconsistent with this charter or ordinances of the City of Tacoma. ~~Said Planning Commission members shall serve without pay.~~

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney





## RESOLUTION NO. 41473

1 A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article II, Section 2.35 of the  
 2 Tacoma City Charter to expand the term limits for the Mayor and  
 3 Council Members elected in or after year 2025 from 10 consecutive  
 4 years to three consecutive full four-year terms; provided that, the new  
 expanded term limits will not apply to the Mayor and Council Members  
 holding office during the 2025 general election.

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

6 Section 1. That Article II, Section 2.35 of the Tacoma City Charter be  
 7 amended to read as follows:

8 **Section 2.35** – Commencing with any Mayor or Council Member first elected  
 9 in 2025, No person shall be allowed to serve on the Council for more than ~~ten~~  
 10 ~~(10)~~ three (3) consecutive ~~years~~ full terms, either as a Council Member, Mayor,  
 11 or combination thereof; provided that, no person holding elected office for the  
 12 City at the time of the general election in 2025 shall be allowed to serve on the  
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1 Council for more than ten (10) consecutive years, either as a Council Member,  
2 Mayor, or combination thereof.

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4 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

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6 \_\_\_\_\_  
7 Mayor

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10 Attest:  
11 City Clerk

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13 Approved as to form:  
14 City Attorney

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