

A Brief History of the City Charter

- The first Village Charter was adopted in 1919, with a commission form of government.
- Upper Arlington was incorporated as a City in 1941 when its population exceeded 5,000 residents.
- In 1956, citizens voted to amend the City Charter, adopting a Council-Manager form of government.
- Updates were last made in 1998. No changes were recommended after a 2008 Charter review process.

2018 City Charter Review Commission

The City wishes to extend its gratitude to the 10 resident volunteer members of the 2018 Charter Review Commission:

John C. Adams (Chair)

Bob Dunn

Megan Heydlauff

Mary Ann Krauss

Maria Mone

Matt Petersen

Jon Secrest

Rich Simpson

Elizabeth Fenner Yassenoff

Julie Bruce Zogbaum

Updated October 9, 2018

Please read this brochure before you vote on Issue 34


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ISSUE 34

City of Upper Arlington City Charter Amendments

Your Vote Counts November 6, 2018



CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

A CHERISHED PAST ★ A GOLDEN FUTURE

Facts About Issue 34

The City of Upper Arlington Charter is considered the most important legal document for the City, since it defines the organization, its structure, functions and essential procedures. Within this document is the requirement that the City Charter must be reviewed by a Council-appointed Commission of at least seven members once every 10 years at a minimum.

To that end, at the close of 2017, City Council formed a Charter Review Commission comprised of 10 resident volunteers. The Commission met from January–June 2018, approaching its task from the perspective that the Charter is a sound and well-reasoned document and relatively few changes would be anticipated. Suggestions from Commission members and the public determined which sections of the Charter were reviewed, and public input was accepted at all but the initial planning meeting.

The Commission recommended several proposed amendments to City Council in June of 2018. They include some general housekeeping items, clarification of some language that proved confusing and adjustments to the process for filling a vacancy on City Council. Upon review and minor amendments, City Council voted to place these proposals on the November 6 ballot.

Issue 34—Proposed Charter Amendments

- **SECTION II** – a change stating that Council may determine the effective date of any ordinance, resolution or other measure, consistent with current Council Rules
- **SECTION III** – clarification of language relative to which legislative acts are subject to referendum, consistent with current Council Rules
- **SECTION IV** – to amend how a vacancy on City Council is filled, setting parameters for the appointment timeframe following a vacancy, and election requirements if the appointment is made before June 30 of the last two years of an unexpired term
- **SECTION V** – to extend a conflict of interest provision for Council candidates and Council members, disqualifying them from eligibility to serve as City Manager, City Attorney or City Clerk for at least two years following an election or the end of their term on Council
- **SECTION VIII** – to remove a specific time of day requirement on the day that Council members are sworn into office
- **SECTION XI** – to remove a requirement of physically delivering written notice of special meetings to Council members’ homes and permitting electronic transmittal in its place
- **SECTION XI** – to authorize Council’s use of Consent Agendas and to clarify the requirements for holding executive sessions, pursuant to State law and City ordinances
- **SECTION XII** – to clarify the permitted interaction between Council members and City staff
- **SECTION XIV** – recommending that the Clerk of Courts position be deleted as a direct report to City Council since this position is now overseen by the City Manager

**A legal version of the City Charter, detailing the proposed changes in full,
can be found at www.upperarlingtonoh.gov**



The City encourages you to be informed on Issue 34 and the other issues and candidates on the ballot, and to make your voice heard by voting November 6!