



IGR = Referred back to  
1-11-05 Charter Comm

### Request for City Council Committee Action From the City Attorney's Office

Date: December 8, 2003  
To: Intergovernmental Relations Committee  
Subject: Proposed Amendment to the Minneapolis City Charter

**Recommendation:** That the IGR Committee sets a public hearing on the proposed change to the Chapter 1, Section 3 of the Minneapolis City Charter for January 13, 2004 at 9:30 and directs the City Clerk to publish the appropriate notice.

Prepared or Submitted by: Jay M. Heffern, City Attorney, 673-3272

Approved by Jay Heffern  
Jay M. Heffern  
City Attorney

Presenters in Committee: Jay M. Heffern, City Attorney

<p><b>Financial Impact</b> (Check those that apply)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget. (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires use of contingency or reserves</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other financial impact (Explain):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator</p>
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#### Background/Supporting Information

On November 5, 2003, the Charter Commission submitted to the City Clerk's office a proposed amendment to the Minneapolis City Charter, requesting the City Council to approve the amendment by a 13-0 vote. The language of the proposed amendment is as follows:

The City Council of The City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

That Chapter 1, Section 3 of the Minneapolis City Charter be amended to read as follows:

#### Section 3. Thirteen Wards.

F. The City Council shall enact the ordinances necessary to implement this section provided that the redistricting process shall be governed by the law in

effect on January 1 of the year in which a Redistricting Commission is established. ~~No readjustment of Ward boundaries shall apply to any City election if the adopted plan goes into effect after the first date for filing for such elections. All Council Members, including those who take office as provided in Chapter 2, Section 16 or 16A of this Charter, may complete the term for which they are elected, or appointed notwithstanding changes in Ward boundaries.~~ All Council Members must stand for election for a term of two years on the ward boundaries of the adopted plan at the first general city election, as defined in Chapter 2, Section 4, after the plan based on the census of 2020, 2040, 2060 or 2080 is adopted; and all Council Members must stand for election on the ward boundaries adopted by the Redistricting Commission in 2002 within 90 days, but not sooner than 60 days, of the effective date of this charter amendment, for the remainder of the term for which elections were held in 2001.

Under Minnesota Statutes, Section 410.12, Subd. 7(2002), the City Council may enact a charter amendment by ordinance. The statute requires that such an ordinance be adopted by an affirmative vote of all members of the City Council after a public hearing. The notice of the hearing must be published two weeks prior to the hearing and contain the text of the proposed amendment. An ordinance amending the City Charter does not become effective until 90 days after passage and publication of the ordinance or at such later date as may be set in the ordinance. Within 60 days after passage and publication of such an ordinance, a petition requesting a referendum on the ordinance may be filed with the City Clerk. Such petition must be signed by qualified voters equal to 2% of the total number of votes cast in the City at the last general election or by 2000 qualified voters, whichever is less.

1ST READING:	11-21-03
REFERRED TO (NAME OF) COMMITTEE:	PLC
PUBLIC HEARING:	-
2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE:	-

# AN ORDINANCE of the CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

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presents the following ordinance:

Amending Chapter 1, Section 3, Paragraph F of the Minneapolis City Charter relating to Council elections after redistricting: Thirteen Wards generally.

The City Council of the City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

**Section 1.** That Chapter 1, Section 3, Paragraph F of the Minneapolis City Charter be amended to read as follows:

"F. The City Council shall enact the ordinances necessary to implement this section, provided that redistricting shall be governed by the law in effect on January 1, of the year in which a Redistricting Commission is established. ~~No readjustment of Ward boundaries shall apply to any City election if the adopted plan goes into effect after the first date for filing for such elections. All Council Members, including those who take office as provided in Chapter 2, Section 16 or 16A of this Charter, may complete the term for which they are elected, or appointed notwithstanding changes in Ward boundaries. All Council Members must stand for election for a term of two years on the ward boundaries of the adopted plan at the first general city election after the plan based on the census of 2020, 2040, 2060, 2080 is adopted.~~"

### City Council Principles

1. The Mayor runs for election in the same year as the Council Members;
2. When a Council Member is elected to a 4 year term, the revisions of the Charter wouldn't shorten that term before their election certificates and their commitments to their constituents terminates;
3. Hold elections as soon as practicable after redistricting and reapportionment occurs in order to conform to State law; and
4. In keeping with the other 3 principles, establish a "4,4,4,4,2,2" cycle for future elections.

The City Council of The City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

That Chapter 1, Section 3 of the Minneapolis City Charter be amended to read as follows:

**Section 3. Thirteen Wards.**

.....

- F. The City Council shall enact the ordinances necessary to implement this section provided that the redistricting process shall be governed by the law in effect on January 1 of the year in which a Redistricting Commission is established. No readjustment of Ward boundaries shall apply to any City election if the adopted plan goes into effect after the first date for filing for such elections. All Council Members, including those who take office as provided in Chapter 2, Section 16 or 16A of this Charter, may complete the term for which they are elected, or appointed notwithstanding changes in Ward boundaries, except as provided in Chapter 2, Section 3.

The City Council of The City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

That Chapter 2, Section 3 of the Minneapolis City Charter be amended to read as follows:

**Section 3. Terms of Office of Mayor and Council Members.** The terms of office of the Mayor and Council Members shall be for four (4) years commencing on the first business day of January of the year following their election, except as otherwise provided in this section. Upon the adoption or court-ordered implementation of all future redistricting plans adopted or implemented after the year 2010, all City Council Members may complete the term for which they were previously elected, unless there is more than two (2) years left in the current four (4) year term. If more than two years remain in the current four (4) year term, a special election will be held within 75 (seventy-five) days after the adoption or court-ordered implementation of the redistricting plan. After such special election, all City Council positions will again be subject to election during the next general election of city officers described in Section 4.

The City Council of The City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

That Chapter 2, Section 4 of the Minneapolis City Charter be amended to read as follows:

**Section 4. Election.** Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, A general city election for the election of city officers shall be held biennially on the first Tuesday after the First Monday in November of each every other odd-numbered year.