

From: [Jan Sandberg](#)
To: [Armstrong, Diana L](#); [Barry Clegg](#)
Subject: Possible charter amendment for the Board of Estimate and Taxation
Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2015 8:40:42 AM

Hi Diana,

I am sending this to you because we generally don't email among Charter Commission members, although I did copy Barry as chair.

At the October meeting we plan to discuss possible Charter amendments pertaining to the number of members for the Board of Estimate and Taxation. At our last meeting, it was suggested that members draft ideas and send them to you/Barry for sharing.

My changes are to

- (1) Article 5.3 (a) Specify that the Board comprises seven (not six) members.
- (2) Article 5.3 (a) (5) Three, not two, members elected by the public.

This avoids having to address the number of votes in Section 5.5 Borrowing Power. I think the focus should be on the overall size of the Board; raising the issue of votes to borrow (a would be required if the Board is reduced to five members) would complicate matters.

I do not support decreasing the size of the Board to five members because of the borrowing power issue and because it would give the City Council majority control of the Board.

Election at large seems to be the best option for enlarging the Board to seven votes. Giving the City Council an extra vote would give them control of the Board which I do not think is appropriate. I also do not think giving an extra vote to the Park Board would be helpful but would be my backup plan.

I am curious if a member of the Park Board or City Council could run for one of the elected positions. I have not researched this but perhaps the City Attorney would have some thoughts.

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