

City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

**TO:** City Manager Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** Nicole Emery, City Clerk  
Chris Bacha, Interim City Attorney  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution – Appointing individuals to the Charter Review Committee – December 19, 2023  
**DATE:** December 13, 2023

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**SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:**

A resolution appointing the following individuals to the 2024 Charter Review Committee to serve until such time as the final reports and recommendations are made on or about May 7, 2024, at which time said Committee will be dissolved without further action of the City Council:

1. Baird, Katie
2. Carr, Nicholas
3. Castro, Maricres
4. Chhun, Silong
5. Fischer, Patrick
6. Flint, Bryan
7. Gauthier, Jason
8. Jimenez, Andre
9. Malott, Melissa
10. Palmer, Latasha
11. Reay, Andrea
12. Stith, Rebecca
13. Winston, Diamatris
14. Wamback, Stephen (Chair)
15. Wu, Lok Yin

and if needed at a future date, the Council may appoint alternates to the Committee as needed, with input from the Committee on expectations of involvement for said positions.

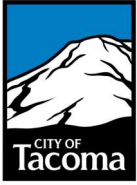
**COUNCIL SPONSORS:**

Mayor Woodards and Council Member Hines.

**BACKGROUND:**

This Department’s recommendation is based on: The existing City Charter was adopted in 1953. Pursuant to Section 2.25 of the City Charter, the City Council shall commence a comprehensive review of the City Charter no less frequently than once every ten years, by appointing residents to a Charter Review Committee, or by the election of a board of freeholders in a manner provided in state law. The last review was in 2014. Staff presented a review of past Charter reviews at Study Session on October 10, 2023; the Government Performance and Finance Committee held a special meeting to conduct interviews on December 5, 2023; and the City Council reviewed candidates for appoint to the Charter Review Committee at Study Session on December 12, 2023.

The Charter Review Committee meetings will begin in January 2024.



**2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

**Equity and Accessibility:**

The City Charter was enacted to avail the people of the City of Tacoma to avail themselves of “all powers granted [to first class] cities and to obtain the benefits of local self-government”. Amendments to the City Charter may be submitted to the voters by the City Council or by initiative petition of the voters. The Charter Review process, conducted every 10 years, provides another method for public input, through the creation of a Charter Review Committee and placement of proposed amendments before the voters in a Special Election.

**Civic Engagement:** *Equity Index Score:* High Opportunity

Increase the number of residents who participate civically through volunteering and voting.

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

**Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).**

The Charter Review process will offer multiple opportunities for community engagement, including applying to serve on the Charter Review Committee, viewing meetings and presentations, reviewing reports, and voting on any amendments that the City Council places on the ballot for the November 2024 Election.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not appoint to the Charter Review Committee.	None	If the review does not occur in 2024, the City will be out of compliance with the City Charter.

**EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:**

Staff members and offices will be designated to support the Charter Review Committee and the Charter Review process through scheduling and staffing meetings, public hearings, and presentations; preparing agendas, notices, minutes, and reports; providing research and support; maintaining official records; and supporting the voting process for all proposed Charter amendments, including the City Council legislative process and November 2024 Election as determined by a vote of the City Council.

**STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City appoints individuals to the Charter Review Committee.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact for appointing to the Charter Review Committee.