

**Proposed Charter Amendment Regarding
Local Primary Elections**

ARTICLE IX. Elections.

Sec. 901. Primary and General Municipal Elections.

(a) Beginning in the year 2022, direct primary elections for the nomination of Mayoral and Council candidates to be voted for at the ensuing general municipal election and for such other purposes as the council may prescribe shall be held in the City on the same date as the Statewide Primary Election as provided in the Elections Code of the State of California (currently the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March in each even-numbered year).

(b) If any candidate for Mayor or Council receives a majority of all votes cast for Mayor or for a specific Council office, that candidate shall be declared elected and no general municipal election shall be held for that office. If no candidate for Mayor or for a specific City Council office receives a majority of all votes cast for that office, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes for that office at the primary nominating election shall be the candidates and the only candidates for that office whose names shall be printed upon the ballots to be used at the general municipal election.

(c) General municipal elections for the election of Mayor and Councilmembers and for such other purposes as the council may prescribe shall be held in the City on the same date as the Statewide General Election as provided in the Elections Code of the State of California (first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each even-numbered year).

Sec. 902. Special Municipal Elections.

All other municipal elections besides those identified in Section 901 that may be held by authority of this Charter, or of any law, shall be known as special municipal elections.

Sec. 903. Procedure for Holding Elections.

Unless otherwise provided by ordinance, all elections shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the Elections Code of the State of California, as the same now exist or hereafter may be amended, for the holding of municipal elections, so far as the same are not in conflict with this Charter.

Section 904. Initiative, Referendum and Recall.

The powers of the initiative and referendum and of the recall of elected City officers are hereby reserved to the electors of the City. The provisions of the Elections Code of the State of California, as the same now exist or may hereafter be amended or superseded, governing the exercise of the powers of initiative and referendum in cities, and governing the exercise of the power of recall of municipal officers, shall apply to the exercise of those powers in the City insofar as such provisions are not in conflict with the provisions of this Charter.