



## 2014 TACOMA CHARTER REVIEW A LOOK AT HOW YOUR CITY WORKS

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Saturday, April 5, 2014 at 9:30 p.m.

# 2014 Charter Review Drafting Subcommittee Agenda

**The Charter Review Drafting Subcommittee will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., at the Center for Urban Waters, located at 326 East D Street**

### **Commencement Bay Conference Room**

1. Call to Order
2. Small group work on draft language for potential changes to the following Preamble and Articles, including a change in the form of government:
  - Preamble
  - Article I: Incorporation and General Powers
  - Article II: The Legislative Branch
  - Article III: The Administrative Branch
  - Article IV: Public Utilities
  - Article V: Nominations and Elections
  - Article VI: City Officers and Personnel
  - Article VII: General Finance
  - Article VIII: Franchises
  - Article IX: Miscellaneous Provisions
  - Article X: Succession in Government
3. Large group discussion regarding the proposed draft language
4. Adjournment



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**PREAMBLE**

We, the people of the City of Tacoma, pursuant to the authority granted by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington, and in order to avail ourselves of all powers granted us, to create a form of government that has all the strengths of an organization with a clearly identified and empowered leader in the form of an elected mayor, an independent council that has clearly defined legislative authority and a city administrator appointed by the mayor and approved by the council, to retain the benefits of professional administration of the workings of the city, do hereby enact this charter.

# Tacoma Council Review Committee

## Council Member per Population Comparison - WA

City	Population	Form of Gov.	# of Council Members	Population per Council
Spokane Valley	91,490	Council-Manager 1	7	13070.0
Yakima	92,620	Council-Manager 2	7	13231.4
Renton	95,540	Mayor-Council 1	7	13648.6
Everett	104,200	Mayor-Council 2	7	14885.7
Kent	120,500	Mayor-Council 3	7	17214.3
Bellevue	132,100	Council-Manager 3	7	18871.4
Vancouver	164,500	Council-Manager 4	7	23500.0
Tacoma	200,400	Council-Manager 5	9 / 7	22266.7 ~2PK
Spokane	211,300	Mayor-Council 4	7	30185.7
Seattle	626,600	Mayor-Council 5	9	69622.2

## Article III (Draft)

### The Executive Branch

#### The Mayor

##### Section 3.1

- (1) The Mayor shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the City.
- (2) The Mayor shall be nominated and elected by the voters of the City of Tacoma.
- (3) The Mayor shall have all executive powers of the City. Those powers shall be:
  - (a) With the assistance of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), supervise and manage all administrative offices and executive departments established by this Charter or created by the City Council.
  - (b) To execute and enforce all ordinances and state statutes within the City.
  - (c) To present to the City Council an annual State of the City address outlining the conditions and affairs of the City and the adoption of those recommended measures the Mayor deems necessary and proper.
  - (d) To prepare and present to the City Council budgets and a budget message setting forth proposals for the City during the next fiscal year.
  - (e) To prepare and present to the City Council capital improvement and economic development plans for the present and future development of the City.
  - (f) To veto any ordinance or section thereof adopted by the City Council except as otherwise provided in the Charter.
  - (g) To assign duties to administrative offices administrative offices and executive departments.
  - (h) To sign, or cause to assign, on behalf of the City, all claims, deeds, contracts and other instruments.
  - (i) To serve, personally, or through a designee, on all appropriate boards and commissions on behalf of the City.
  - (j) To employ personnel to advise the Mayor.

(4) The specific statement of particular executive powers shall not be construed as limiting executive powers of the Mayor.

## Appointments by Mayor and Confirmation

### Section 3.2

The Mayor shall appoint the chief officer of each executive department; and shall appoint the members of all boards and commissions except as otherwise determined by this Charter. The appointments of the Mayor shall be subject to confirmation by a majority of the City Council. The Mayor may appoint a confidential secretary and administrative assistant without City Council confirmation. (What should be done if board appointments are not approved? Spokane addresses this issue.)

## Chief Administrative Officer

### Section 3.3

The Mayor shall appoint, with City Council confirmation, a Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). The CAO shall be appointed on the basis of their training, experience, and other administrative qualifications for the office and without regard to their place of residence at the time of appointment, but during their term of office shall reside within the City. The CAO shall, under the general supervision of the Mayor, assist in administering city government. The Mayor will have the authority to remove the CAO. The salary of the CAO shall be fixed by the Mayor subject to approval by the City Council.