

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS REPORT

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: MIKE POSEY, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

DATE: AUGUST 3, 2021

SUBJECT: CONVENING A CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

As evidenced by the recent City Council vacancy selection process, there are certain provisions within the City's Charter that warrant review and reconsideration. For instance, Huntington Beach City Charter Section 312 states that any vacancy on the City Council "shall be filled by appointment by the City Council." Further, the Charter stipulates that if the City Council fails to fill the "vacancy by appointment within sixty days after such office shall become vacant, the City Council shall forthwith cause an election to be held to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term."

In an effort to strengthen our local democratic institutions, I am suggesting that a committee of the City Council be convened to develop recommended updates to the City Charter, including but not limited to a review of the vacancy appointment process. Through this City Council committee, recommended updates would be developed and brought forward for full City Council consideration. If the City Council then moves to adopt the proposed changes, the Charter amendments would be put forward for voter consideration.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

I recommend that the City Council vote to direct the formation of a City Council Ad-Hoc Charter Review Committee to develop and submit for consideration Charter update language.