

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT  
CITY CHARTER AMENDMENTS  
Election Date: May 16, 2023**

If approved, this measure would adopt amendments to the current Charter, which was enacted in 1983. Charters grant legal authority to cities, specify how ordinances are adopted, list qualifications for officers, and assign duties to city officials.

The Roseburg City Council referred the Charter amendments to the voters upon the recommendation of a Charter Review Committee.

The amendments are based in part on the League of Oregon Cities Model Charter, but keep those provisions that are unique and important to Roseburg. It retains the current form of government with the Mayor and eight Councilors to govern and a city manager to run administrative affairs. The amendments update the Charter to be more straightforward and modernized to clearly define the legal authority of the City.

The Roseburg City Council formed the Roseburg City Charter Review Committee and requested that the Committee review the current Charter and recommend changes. The Committee recommended the new Charter and the City Council has referred it to the voters. The major changes are:

- Language is added regarding the residency requirement for the city manager, giving Council discretion to allow the city manager to live outside city limits on an individual basis when appropriate.
- Adds language to allow the city manager to delegate some duties to other staff when appropriate. This provides the city manager more flexibility and efficiency in administering the daily work of the City.
- Adds a section regarding filling vacancies for the office of Mayor or Councilor. This section allows the person filling a vacancy to serve the remainder of the term of the person last elected to that office, rather than having to run mid-way through the term and again when the term expires. It keeps election of Council positions in original term end dates.
- Removes sections in the Charter that are not enforceable or legal, or are covered by state statute.

The new Charter Revision contains other minor changes as well.

A “Yes” vote adopts the amendments to the current Charter for the City of Roseburg and replaces the current Charter. A “No” vote keeps the current Roseburg City Charter unchanged.