

CITY OF YAKIMA

LEGAL

DEPARTMENT

200 South Third Street, Yakima, Washington 98901

(509)575-6030 Fax (509)575-6160

MEMORANDUM

October 30, 2018

TO: Cliff Moore, City Manager
Ana Cortez, Assistant City Manager

FROM: Helen A. Harvey, Senior Assistant City Attorney

SUBJ: City Charter - Amendments to the Charter

A. Background.

You have requested a brief memorandum on the process for amendments to the City Charter. This involves the issue of possible consideration by the voters of potential amendments repealing two sections of the Yakima City Charter: Section 8 and Section 9 of Article VI.

Section 8 and Section 9 of Article VI of the City Charter are below.

"ARTICLE VI Additional Powers and Limitations on Officers"

"SECTION 8.

There shall be a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund, reserved for the enhancement in quality and value of City street infrastructure, of no less than Two Million Dollars annually in the City's General Fund budget. This dedicated fund base amount of Two Million Dollars shall be adjusted annually in accord with the annual change in the June U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) West Region. The City Council shall make no other use of this fund than as is provided in this Section."

"SECTION 9.

There shall be a dedicated public parks and recreation capital fund, reserved for the construction and rehabilitation of City public parks and recreation facilities, of no less than Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars annually in the City's General Fund budget. This dedicated fund base amount of Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars shall be adjusted annually in accord with the annual change in the June U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) West Region. The City Council shall make no other use of this fund than as is provided in this Section."

Section 8 of Article VI on the dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund was passed by the voters at the election on August 6, 2013. As reflected in the "Authentication of Charter Amendment" section in the Charter history book (attached), the amendment passed by 72.3% of the votes:

"For the proposed amendment to the Charter, 7,781 votes;
Against the proposed amendments to the charter, 2,967 votes;
Majority for the proposed amendment to the charter, 4,814 votes."

Section 9 of Article VI on the dedicated public parks and recreation capital fund was passed by the voters at the election on November 4, 2014. As reflected in the "Authentication of Charter Amendment" section, the amendment passed by 68.6% of the votes:

"For the proposed amendment to the Charter, 11,784 votes;
Against the proposed amendments to the charter, 5,372 votes;
Majority for the proposed amendment to the charter, 6,412 votes."

B. Steps for Amendment of the City Charter.

Article XIII of the Yakima City Charter discusses amendments to the Charter, and states:

**"Article XIII
Amendments**

SECTION 1.

This charter may be amended in the manner provided by the laws of the State of Washington. Special elections for amending this charter may be called by the City Council or shall be called upon petition of qualified voters of the City of a number not less than fifteen percent of the total number of votes cast at the last preceding general state election, and otherwise as set forth in State law."

The attached respective "Authentication of Charter Amendment" sections from the Yakima City Charter history book describe the basic process for amending the City Charter when the election is called by the City Council.

Section 8 of Article VI of the Yakima City Charter regarding the dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund:

1. **Resolution No. 2013-029** (attached) was adopted by the City Council on February 9, 2013, and called for an election to be held in conjunction with the regular municipal election on August 6, 2013.
2. Proposed amendments to the City Charter were **published** in the Yakima Herald-Republic at least once each week for four weeks preceding the date of submitting the proposed charter amendments to the electors.
3. Voters voted in the regular municipal election held August 6, 2013.

Section 9 of Article VI of the Yakima City Charter regarding the dedicated public parks and recreation capital and rehabilitation fund:

1. **Resolution No. 2014-066** (attached) was adopted by the City Council on May 6, 2014, and called for an election to be held in conjunction with the regular municipal election on November 4, 2014.
2. Proposed amendments to the City Charter were **published** in the Yakima Herald-Republic at least once each week for four weeks preceding the date of submitting the proposed charter amendments to the electors.

3. Voters voted in the regular municipal election held November 4, 2014.

C. Election Costs.

In October 2018, City Clerk Sonya Claar Tee corresponded with Kathy Fisher, Elections Manager of the Yakima County Elections Division, to attempt to receive a rough estimate of election costs depending on whether a ballot proposition was scheduled on the election date on February 12, 2019 or April 23, 2019, on the primary on August 6, 2019, or on the general election on November 5, 2019. Attached is their email correspondence. Elections Manager Kathy Fisher indicates that ballot propositions at elections in February or April cost the most for a city. For example, when Kathy Fisher used February 2016 as a comparable, the "city's cost using the 2016 February actuals would have been \$64,000." A ballot proposition on the primary or the general election costs less, although the amount varies depending on how many items are on the ballot. An estimate of "roughly \$5,000" additional for a ballot proposition was given for the primary or general election; however, the actual cost will depend on how many positions/items are on the ballot at that time.

cc: Jeff Cutter, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. 2019 Election Calendar from Yakima County Elections Division
2. Resolution No. R-2013-029 regarding a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund (passed on August 6, 2013) (includes the "Authentication of Charter Amendment" section in the Yakima City Charter history book)
3. Resolution No. R-2014-066 regarding a dedicated public parks and recreation capital construction and rehabilitation fund (passed on November 4, 2014) (includes the "Authentication of Charter Amendment" section in the Yakima City Charter history book)
4. Emails between Yakima County Elections Manager Kathy Fisher and City Clerk Sonya Claar Tee in October 2018 regarding election costs

**2019 Election Calendar
from Yakima County Elections Division**

2018 / 2019 election calendar

Resolutions

To call for a special election in February or April, resolutions are due 60 days prior to the election date.

If the Special Election is to be held in conjunction with a Primary, resolutions are due no later than the Friday immediately before the first day of the regular candidate filing period.

Resolutions calling for a Special Election in conjunction with the General Election are due no later than the day of the Primary. RCW 29A.04.321

A ballot measure cover sheet must be submitted with each resolution or ordinance submitted to Yakima County Elections.

If a jurisdiction wishes to withdraw a resolution, a signed statement must be submitted to the elections division. The deadline to withdraw a resolution is the same as filing a resolution that calls for an election.

Certification

Election results are certified 10 days after a Special Election in February or April, 14 days after a Primary, and 21 days after a General Election.

Candidate Filing 2019

Candidate filing period for 2019 is May 13-17.
RCW 29A.24.050

Election Date	Aug 7 2018	Nov 6 2018	Feb 12 2019	Apr 23 2019	Aug 6 2019	Nov 5 2019
Resolution Due	May 11	Aug 7	Dec 14	Feb 22	May 10	Aug 6
29 Day Registration and Update Deadline	July 9	Oct 8	Jan 14	Mar 25	*	*
8 Day New Registration Deadline	July 30	Oct 29	Feb 4	Apr 15	*	*
Overseas/Military Ballots Mailed	June 22	Sept 21	Jan 11	Mar 22	June 21	Sept 20
Ballots Available	July 20	Oct 19	Jan 25	Apr 5	July 19	Oct 18
Election Certified	Aug 21	Nov 27	Feb 22	May 3	Aug 20	Nov 26

***beginning June 2019:**

citizens who are not currently registered in Washington may register:

by mail or online - Applications must be received by the County auditor no later than 8 days before the election.

in person - Applicants must appear in-person in the County Auditor's Office no later than 8pm on the day of the election.

Individuals already registered to vote in Washington may update their registration no later than 8pm on the day of the election.

SSB 6021; 2018

The 8 day in person voter registration deadline is only for individuals who are not currently registered in Washington State. The applicant must appear in-person in the Auditor's Office. RCW 29A.08.140

Resolution No. R-2013-029 regarding a
dedicated street overlay and
reconstruction fund
(passed on August 6, 2013)
(includes the “Authentication of Charter
Amendment” section in the Yakima City
Charter history book)

RESOLUTION NO. R-2013-029

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Yakima, Washington, providing for the submission to the voters of the City of Yakima a Proposition on whether Article VI of the Charter of the City of Yakima should be amended to add new Section 8 establishing a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund, to be funded in the amount of no less than Two Million Dollars annually, adjusted annually per consumer price index, and limiting expenditures from such fund to the dedicated purposes of street overlay and reconstruction; and requesting the Yakima County Auditor to submit the Proposition to the voters on the regular municipal primary election to be held August 6, 2013.

WHEREAS, Chapter 35.22 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) authorizes first class cities of the State of Washington to amend and revise their charters upon approval by a majority of the qualified voters of the city voting in a general or special election called for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, an amendment of the charter may be initiated by the City Council through the approval of a resolution requesting that a proposition be submitted to the qualified voters in the City to decide whether the City should adopt an amendment to Article VI of the Charter of the City of Yakima to add new Section 8 establishing a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund to be funded annually from the General Fund budget in an amount no less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000), which amount shall be adjusted annually in accordance with the annual change in the June U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) West Region, and further providing that the City Council shall make no other use of this Fund than as provided in such Section 8; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to hold an election in the City of Yakima on the regular municipal primary election date of August 6, 2013, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City the proposition of whether the City of Yakima should approve the amendment to the Charter as described above, all as set forth in the proposed amendment to Article VI of the Charter to add new Section 8 attached hereto as Exhibit "A;" and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that the best interests and general welfare of the City of Yakima would be served by submitting to the qualified voters in the City the proposition of whether the City of Yakima should approve the amendment to the Charter as set forth herein, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YAKIMA:

1. The proposition to be submitted at the August 6, 2013 regular municipal primary election shall be in the form of a ballot title as follows:


PROPOSITION NO 1
ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT TO CHARTER OF THE CITY OF YAKIMA

PROPOSITION NO. 1 concerns an amendment of the City of Yakima Charter. This measure amends Charter Article VI adding new Section 8 creating a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund, funded annually in the amount of no less than Two Million Dollars from the general fund budget, adjusted annually in accordance with consumer price index, and providing that expenditures from such fund be limited to such street overlay and reconstruction. Should this proposition be approved?

YES.....☐
NO.....☐

2. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Yakima County Auditor.
3. The Yakima County Auditor is requested to call and conduct an election to be held in the City of Yakima on the regular municipal primary election day of August 6, 2013, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Yakima the proposition set forth in Section 1 above.
4. Severability If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this 19th day of February, 2013




Micah Cawley, Mayor

ATTEST:


Dawn Clear
City Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Jeff Cutter, City Attorney

EXHIBIT "A"

BALLOT PROPOSITION AMENDING CITY CHARTER

ARTICLE VI, SECTION 8

(To Be Added As A New Section)

There shall be a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund, reserved for the enhancement in quality and value of City street infrastructure, of no less than Two Million Dollars annually in the City's General Fund budget. This dedicated fund base amount of Two Million Dollars shall be adjusted annually in accord with the annual change in the June U S Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) West Region. The City Council shall make no other use of this fund than as is provided in this Section.



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
YAKIMA, WASHINGTON
AGENDA STATEMENT**

Item No. 12

For Meeting of: February 19, 2013

ITEM TITLE:

Resolution of the City Council of the City of Yakima providing for the submission to the eligible voters of the City of Yakima on the regular municipal primary election to be held August 6, 2013, a Proposition to amend Article VI of the Charter of the City of Yakima to add new Section 8 establishing a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund in the City's General Fund budget

SUBMITTED BY:

Jeff Cutter, City Attorney

CONTACT

PERSON/TELEPHONE:

Jeff Cutter, City Attorney/575-6030

SUMMARY EXPLANATION:

The Revised Code of Washington authorizes first class cities of the State of Washington to amend and revise their charters upon approval by a majority of the qualified voters of the city voting in a general or special election called for that purpose.

The City Council desires to hold an election in the City of Yakima on the regular municipal primary election date of August 6, 2013, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City the proposition to amend Article VI of the City Charter to add new Section 8 establishing a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund to be funded annually from the General Fund budget in an amount no less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000), with the provision that this amount shall be adjusted annually in accordance with annual change in the Consumer Price Index, and further providing that the City Council shall make no other use of this Fund than as provided in such Section 8.

Resolution	X	Ordinance	Other (specify)
Contract:		Mail to:	
Contract Term:		Amount:	Expiration Date:
Insurance Required? No			
Funding Source:			Phone:
APPROVED FOR			

SUBMITTAL:



City Manager

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution.

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

Click to download

- ☐ [Res-Charter Amendment-Ballot Proposition-Dedicated Street Fund-2-2013](#)
- ☐ [CHARTER AMENDMENT-Ballot Proposition-Dedicated Street Fund-Exh A-2-2013](#)



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
129 North Second Street
Yakima, Washington 98901
Phone (509) 575-6037 • Fax (509) 576-6614

February 26, 2013

HAND DELIVERED

Ms Corky Mattingly
Yakima County Auditor
128 North Second Street
Yakima, WA 98901

Dear Ms Mattingly

On February 19, 2013, the Yakima City Council adopted Resolution No R-2013-029 that requests you to submit a proposition to the voters of the City of Yakima on the municipal primary election to be held August 6, 2013. The ballot title states

PROPOSITION NO 1
ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT TO CHARTER OF THE CITY OF YAKIMA

PROPOSITION NO 1 concerns an amendment of the City of Yakima Charter. This measure amends Charter Article VI adding new Section 8 creating a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund, funded annually in the amount of no less than Two Million Dollars from the general fund budget, adjusted annually in accordance with consumer price index, and providing that expenditures from such fund be limited to such street overlay and reconstruction. Should this proposition be approved?

YES
NO

☐
☐

Attached is an original resolution signed by Mayor Micah Cawley. Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Sonya Claar Tee
City Clerk

C City Attorney

Attachment

RECEIVED

FEB 28 2013

Yakima County
Election Division



1994

78

AMENDMENT NO. 12

"That Article VI, Section 8, to be added as a new section, of the Charter of the City of Yakima be amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE VI

SECTION 8. There shall be a dedicated street overlay and reconstruction fund, reserved for the enhancement in quality and value of City street infrastructure, of no less than Two Million Dollars annually in the City's General Fund budget. This dedicated fund base amount of Two Million Dollars shall be adjusted annually in accord with the annual change in the June U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) West Region. The City Council shall make no other use of this fund than as is provided in this Section."

As adopted by vote of the people August 6, 2013. Effective date August 20, 2013.

AUTHENTICATION OF CHARTER AMENDMENT

I, Micah Cawley, Mayor of the City of Yakima, State of Washington, do hereby certify that in accordance with the Constitution and statutes of the State of Washington, the City Council of the City of Yakima duly adopted Resolution No. R-2013-029 at a regular meeting of the Yakima City Council held on February 19, 2013, by which resolution the Yakima City Council proposed to the electors of the City of Yakima, Washington that Article VI of the Charter of the City of Yakima be amended and by which resolution the Yakima City Council called for the election to be held in conjunction with the regular municipal election to be held August 6, 2013, for the submittal to the electors of the City Of Yakima, Washington, for their approval or rejection, of the said proposed amendment to the Yakima City Charter.

That such regular municipal election was duly called by resolution of the Yakima County Auditor, and thereafter the said proposed amendments to the Yakima City Charter were published in the Yakima Herald-Republic, the daily newspaper of largest general circulation published in the requirements of applicable laws, which notice was published at least once each week for four weeks next preceding the date of submitting said proposed charter amendments to the electors for their approval; and that all further notices of said regular municipal election were duly and timely published in accordance with requirements of applicable laws.

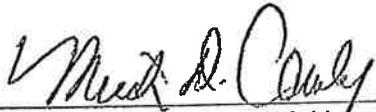
That thereafter on August 6, 2013, at such election duly called and held, the said proposed amendments were submitted to the qualified electors of the City of Yakima and the returns canvassed resulted as follows:

For the proposed amendment to the Charter, 7,781 votes;
Against the proposed amendments to the charter, 2,967 votes;
Majority for the proposed amendment to the charter, 4,814 votes;

Whereupon the said proposed amendments of the Yakima City Charter were declared approved and adopted by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the said election.

I further certify that the foregoing is a full, true and complete copy of the said charter amendment so voted upon and adopted as aforesaid.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the corporate seal of said city at my office this 20th day of August, 2013.


MAYOR of the City of Yakima, Washington

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK of the City of Yakima, Washington



Resolution No. R-2014-066 regarding a
dedicated public parks and recreation
capital construction and rehabilitation
fund (passed on November 4, 2014)
(includes the “Authentication of Charter
Amendment” section in the Yakima City
Charter history book)

RESOLUTION NO. R-2014-066

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Yakima, Washington, providing for the submission to the voters of the City of Yakima a Proposition on whether Article VI of the Charter of the City of Yakima should be amended to add new Section 9 establishing a dedicated public parks and recreation capital construction and rehabilitation fund, to be funded in the amount of no less than Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars annually, adjusted annually per consumer price index, and limiting expenditures from such fund to the dedicated purposes of public parks and recreation capital construction and rehabilitation; and requesting the Yakima County Auditor to submit the Proposition to the voters on the regular municipal general election to be held November 4, 2014.

WHEREAS, Chapter 35.22 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) authorizes first class cities of the State of Washington to amend and revise their charters upon approval by a majority of the qualified voters of the city voting in a general or special election called for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, an amendment of the charter may be initiated by the City Council through the approval of a resolution requesting that a proposition be submitted to the qualified voters in the City to decide whether the City should adopt an amendment to Article VI of the Charter of the City of Yakima to add new Section 9 establishing a dedicated public parks and recreation capital construction and rehabilitation fund to be funded annually from the General Fund budget in an amount no less than Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000), which amount shall be adjusted annually in accordance with the annual change in the June U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) West Region, and further providing that the City Council shall make no other use of this Fund than as provided in such Section 9; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to hold an election in the City of Yakima on the regular municipal general election date of November 4, 2014, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City the proposition of whether the City of Yakima should approve the amendment to the Charter as described above, all as set forth in the proposed amendment to Article VI of the Charter to add new Section 9, attached hereto as Exhibit "A," and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that the best interests and general welfare of the City of Yakima would be served by submitting to the qualified voters in the City

the proposition of whether the City of Yakima should approve the amendment to the Charter as set forth herein, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YAKIMA:

1. The proposition to be submitted at the November 4, 2014 regular municipal general election shall be in the form of a ballot title as follows:

PROPOSITION NO. 1

ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT TO CHARTER OF THE CITY OF YAKIMA

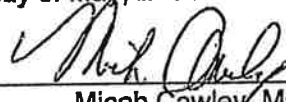
PROPOSITION NO. 1 concerns an amendment of the City of Yakima Charter. This measure amends City Charter Article VI adding new Section 9 creating a dedicated public parks and recreation capital construction and rehabilitation fund, funded annually in the amount of no less than Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars from the general fund budget, adjusted annually in accordance with consumer price index, and providing that expenditures from such fund be limited to public parks and recreation capital construction and rehabilitation. Should this proposition be approved?

YES.....[]

NO.....[]

2. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Yakima County Auditor
3. The Yakima County Auditor is requested to call and conduct an election to be held in the City of Yakima on the regular municipal general election day of November 4, 2014, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Yakima the proposition set forth in Section 1 above.
4. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this 6th day of May, 2014.



Micah Cawley, Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

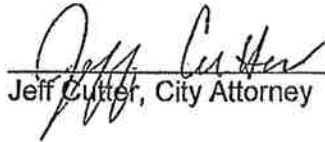

Jeff Cutter, City Attorney

EXHIBIT "A"

BALLOT PROPOSITION AMENDING CITY CHARTER

ARTICLE VI, SECTION 9.

(To Be Added As A New Section)

There shall be a dedicated public parks and recreation capital fund, reserved for the construction and rehabilitation of City public parks and recreation facilities, of no less than Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars annually in the City's General Fund budget. This dedicated fund base amount of Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars shall be adjusted annually in accord with the annual change in the June U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) West Region. The City Council shall make no other use of this fund than as is provided in this Section.



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
YAKIMA, WASHINGTON
AGENDA STATEMENT**

Item No. 10
For Meeting of: 5/6/2014

ITEM TITLE:

Resolution providing for the submission to the eligible voters of the City of Yakima on the regular municipal primary election to be held August 5, 2014, a Proposition to amend Article VI of the Charter of the City of Yakima to add new Section 9 establishing a dedicated parks and recreation capital construction and rehabilitation fund in the City's General Fund budget.

SUBMITTED BY:

Jeff Cutter, City Attorney / 575-6030

SUMMARY EXPLANATION:

The Revised Code of Washington authorizes first class cities of the State of Washington to amend and revise their charters upon approval by a majority of the qualified voters of the city voting in a general or special election called for that purpose.

The attached resolution and Exhibit A thereto, if approved by the City Council, would submit the attached Proposition No. 1 to the qualified voters of the City on the regular municipal primary election date of August 5, 2014, for their vote on the proposition to amend Article VI of the City Charter to add new Section 9 establishing a dedicated parks and recreation capital construction and rehabilitation fund, to be funded annually from the General Fund budget in an amount no less than Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000), with the provision that this amount shall be adjusted annually in accordance with annual change in the Consumer Price Index, and further providing that the City Council shall make no other use of this Fund than as provided in Section 9.

The deadline for submitting the resolution to the County Auditor for the August 5, 2014 primary general election is May 9, 2014. The resolution could also be amended for submission to the Auditor by no later than August 5, 2014 to be included on the November 4, 2014 general election ballot.

Resolution: X
Other (Specify):
Contract:
Start Date:

Ordinance:

Contract Term:
End Date:

Item Budgeted: NA

Amount:

Funding Source/Fiscal
Impact:

Strategic Priority: Economic Development

Insurance Required? No

Mail to:

Phone:

APPROVED FOR
SUBMITTAL:



City Manager

RECOMMENDATION:

Take action on the resolution.

ATTACHMENTS:

	Description	Upload Date	Type
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Charter Amendment-Ballot Proposition-Dedicated Park and Rec Fund</u>	4/16/2014	Resolution
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Exhibit A-Charter Amendment-Ballot Proposition- Dedicated Park & Rec Fund</u>	4/16/2014	Exhibit

AMENDMENT NO. 14

"That Article VI of the Charter of the City of Yakima be amended with the addition of Section 9, to read as follows:

ARTICLE VI

SECTION 9. There shall be a dedicated public parks and recreation capital fund, reserved for the construction and rehabilitation of City public parks and recreation facilities, of no less than Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars annually in the City's General Fund budget. This dedicated fund base amount of Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars shall be adjusted annually in accord with the annual change in the June U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) West Region. The City Council shall make no other use of this fund than as is provided in this Section."

As adopted by vote of the people November 4, 2014. Effective date November 25, 2014.

AUTHENTICATION OF CHARTER AMENDMENT

I, Micah Cawley, Mayor of the City of Yakima, State of Washington, do hereby certify that in accordance with the Constitution and statutes of the State of Washington, the City Council of the City of Yakima duly adopted Resolution No. R-2014-066 at a regular meeting of the Yakima City Council held on May 6, 2014, by which resolution the Yakima City Council proposed to the electors of the City of Yakima, Washington that Article VI of the Charter of the City of Yakima be amended and by which resolution the Yakima City Council called for the election to be held in conjunction with the regular municipal election to be held November 4, 2014, for the submittal to the electors of the City Of Yakima, Washington, for their approval or rejection, of the said proposed amendment to the Yakima City Charter.

That such regular municipal election was duly called by resolution of the Yakima County Auditor, and thereafter the said proposed amendments to the Yakima City Charter were published in the Yakima Herald-Republic, the daily newspaper of largest general circulation published in the requirements of applicable laws, which notice was published at least once each week for four weeks next preceding the date of submitting said proposed charter amendments to the electors for their approval; and that all further notices of said regular municipal election were duly and timely published in accordance with requirements of applicable laws.

That thereafter on November 4, 2014, at such election duly called and held, the said proposed amendments were submitted to the qualified electors of the City of Yakima and the returns canvassed resulted as follows:


For the proposed amendment to the Charter, 11,784 votes;
Against the proposed amendments to the charter, 5,372 votes;

Majority for the proposed amendment to the charter, 6,412 votes;

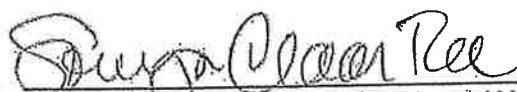
Whereupon the said proposed amendments of the Yakima City Charter were declared approved and adopted by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the said election;

I further certify that the foregoing is a full, true and complete copy of the said charter amendment so voted upon and adopted as aforesaid.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the corporate seal of said city at my office this 25th day of November, 2014.


MAYOR of the City of Yakima, Washington

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK of the City of Yakima, Washington



Emails between Yakima County
Elections Manager Kathy Fisher and City
Clerk Sonya Claar Tee in October 2018
regarding election costs

Harvey, Helen

From: Claar Tee, Sonya
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2018 3:47 PM
To: Moore, Cliff; Cortez, Ana; Cutter, Jeff; Harvey, Helen; Groom, Steve
Cc: Price, Cally
Subject: FW: election cost question

See estimates below.

From: Kathy Fisher [mailto:kathy.fisher@co.yakima.wa.us]

Hi Sonya ~

I replied to your questions below.

Thanks!

From: Claar Tee, Sonya <Sonya.ClaarTee@yakimawa.gov>

Hi Kathy – I'm trying to do some rough estimates and hoping you can let me know how close I might be.

- ☐ If we have a Special Election in February or April, I estimate the cost at approx. \$50,000.

The only districts scheduled for February so far are Selah and Highland school districts...this means that the City would pick up a large chunk of the cost of that election because it would be the largest jurisdiction. Of course, I won't know for sure until December 14 when the reso due date hits.

I used February 2016 as a comparable for this estimate -- this election had 62,300 voters which is only 5,000 more than the City, Selah, and Highland. The city's cost using the 2016 February actuals would have been \$64,000.

- ☐ If we have several positions on the Primary and we add a ballot measure, would that be roughly \$5,000?

I used the 2017 Primary for this estimate...the City had 3 positions on the ballot for a total cost of \$30,800. Adding two more (one for the extra council position and one for the issue would bring that total cost up to \$34,000. Of course, not knowing what jurisdictions will have a primary or not plays a big part in this one. (nice job on your estimate!)

- ☐ If we have a Primary with no positions on the ballot, and we add a ballot measure, what would you estimate the cost at?

Again, I used the 2017 Primary for this estimate....with just 1 "position" on that ballot would have cost the City \$25,900.

- ☐ If we add a ballot measure to the General, since we will have 4 council members up for re-election, would that be approx. \$5,000 additional?

I used the 2017 General for this estimate...with 5 items on that ballot, the city paid \$24,900. So that would be roughly the same amount.

As a quick FYI, there are some big legislative changes for elections that go into effect 2019 June – same day (no deadline) registration and updates. This has the potential to increase costs....no registration deadline means more voters, which means more ballots, envelopes, time spent conducting the election, etc.

Thank you for your assistance!

From: Kathy Fisher [<mailto:kathy.fisher@co.yakima.wa.us>]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2018 11:16 AM
To: Claar Tee, Sonya <Sonya.ClaarTee@yakimawa.gov>
Subject: Re: election cost question

Hi Sonya ~

Everything is the same

From: Claar Tee, Sonya <Sonya.ClaarTee@yakimawa.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2018 10:51:58 AM
To: Kathy Fisher
Subject: election cost question

Hi Kathy – I received the info below in 2014 re election costs. Is this still correct or are there any changes/updates? Thank you!!

To start, election costs are calculated as per The Budget, Accounting, and Reporting System (BARS) manual as published by the Washington State Auditor (SAO).

Yakima County job costs all expenses, including salary and benefits in order to more accurately allocate a jurisdictions' proportionate share.

Election costs can vary greatly if a jurisdiction places a measure on a general election ballot vs. a special election ballot. If a jurisdiction conducts a special election in February or April and they are the only jurisdiction conducting an election during that time, they absorb all the costs associated with that election rather than having the costs proportionally distributed amongst other jurisdictions that may also have a special election on that date.

Since local jurisdictions and special districts always have a General Election in an odd numbered year to elect council members, school board members and commissioners, if they added a special issue to that particular ballot it wouldn't substantially increase their costs for that particular election since most, if not all, jurisdictions in the county are sharing in the cost of that general election.

For example, in 2013, the City of Yakima had 6 contests/issues on the ballot, for a cost of \$27,839.84. If they had an additional issue (7), their cost would have been approximately \$30,000. Compare that to the February 2009 special election when the City was the only jurisdiction on the ballot and their cost was \$47,000+. In addition, during an odd numbered year General Election, not only are the special districts and cities proportionately sharing in election costs, the State pays their proportionate share for state issues on the ballot. Since they are the largest jurisdiction on the ballot (encompassing the whole county), they pay a much greater share of the costs.

The same scenario would more than likely hold true for a special issue for most even numbered year general election ballots. The only difference is that the State does not pay for federal and state offices on the ballot (which is state law), so those costs

fall to the county. In looking at November 2012's general election costs, if the City placed an issue on that ballot, their costs would have been similar if not a bit less than the 7 issue 2013 general election scenario I described above.

What I described above are only costs directly associated with that particular election. At the end of the year, miscellaneous costs are proportionately distributed to all jurisdictions who conducted any type of election during that year based on a percentage factor established by the SAO.

Sonya Claar Tee, CMC | City Clerk

City of Yakima | www.yakimawa.gov | P: 509.575.6271

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