

Tucson Charter Change Coalition, (TC³)

4400 East Broadway, Suite 307
Tucson, Arizona 85711

June 8, 2010

Mayor Robert E. Walkup
Vice Mayor Shirley Scott, Ward Four
Councilmember Regina Romero, Ward One
Councilmember Paul Cunningham, Ward Two
Councilmember Karin Uhlich, Ward Three
Councilmember Richard Fimbres, Ward Five
Councilmember Steve Kozachik, Ward Six
City of Tucson
255 West Alameda, 10th Floor
Post Office Box 27210
Tucson, Arizona 85726-7210

Re: Tucson City Charter Proposed Changes

Dear Mayor Walkup and Members of the City Council:

The Tucson Charter Change Coalition (TC³) is pleased to participate in the Public Hearing on Potential Charter Changes. Following our discussions and in an effort to reach consensus, we are requesting that the Tucson City Charter be amended to enact the recommendations described below by referring these measures for a public vote at the November 2, 2010, general election.

Who is TC³

TC³ is a coalition of community groups and individuals dedicated to help strengthen the City of Tucson's governance structure and positioning the City and its residents for prosperity and a higher quality of life. It is a diverse coalition, committed to an open and inclusive process. More than 150 persons from organizations throughout the community have signed documents indicating their desire to be a coalition partner. Coalition partners represent a variety of organizations and communities, including nonprofit organizations, environmental organizations, and labor unions, as well as the business community. (See the attached list.)

The Process

Our recommendations arose from an 11-month long collaborative and inclusive process that began with the interviewing of the Mayor, Council members, City Manager, former City Managers and Council aides. Instrumental in the process was conducting extensive research on city governance structures and consulting with nationally recognized experts in city governance. Most recently, the coalition conducted a series of coalition partner meetings and a public meeting April 30 that attracted 200 people and

featured addresses by two city governance experts, John Nalbandian of the University of Kansas and James Svava of Arizona State University. At each meeting, the coalition partners and the public were surveyed, and both the coalition partners and the public have registered an overwhelming favorable response to all but one recommendation (pertaining to adding two new wards), which we have retracted.

Recommendations

1. Accountability of City Manager and Department Heads. Revise the City Charter and Civil Service Rules, as necessary, to:

- Eliminate civil service protection for department heads and their deputies.
- Clarify the authority and responsibility for hiring and discharging department heads.
- Provide the responsibility and authority to hire and discharge department heads as follows:

Department Head	Hire	Discharge
City Attorney	Mayor and Council	2-Year Term or Mayor and Council
City Clerk	Mayor and Council	2-Year Term or Mayor and Council
Police Chief	Manager, with consent of Mayor and Council	Manager, with consent of Mayor and Council
Fire Chief	Manager, with consent of Mayor and Council	Manager, with consent of Mayor and Council
Finance	Manager, with consent of Mayor and Council	Manager
Human Resources	Manager, with consent of Mayor and Council	Manager
Parks and Recreation	Manager, with consent of Mayor and Council	Manager
City engineer	Manager	Manager
Superintendent of Streets	Manager	Manager
Superintendent of Water	Manager	Manager
All Other Department Heads	Manager	Manager

*No change to current Charter

- Provide that the City Council may express its views and fully and freely discuss with the City Manager anything pertaining to appointment and removal of any City administrative officer or employee whom the City Manager or any subordinate of the City Manager is empowered to appoint.

- Provide that the City Manager may be discharged by a simple majority of Mayor and Council members (current super-majority requirement to be removed).

2. Index Mayor and Council salaries to the salaries of the Pima County Board of Supervisors.

- To be effective as of the date of the seating of new Council members after the next city council election.
- Mayor to receive 100 percent of said salary; Council members, 80 percent.
- Salary increases must be budget neutral.

3. Mayoral Parity.

- Mayor will have same voting rights as the Council members, be deemed a member of the Council, and count in quorum requirements.

4. Election dates for Mayor and Council members.

- Move elections to even-numbered years to increase turnout and save money.
- Continue with staggered elections.

We believe it is time to have the voters review and update the Charter, which was enacted in 1929. We further believe the City of Tucson leadership needs these tools and structure to help our region reach its full potential.

Sincerely,

Tucson Charter Change Coalition

(Note- *Signed by tonight's presenters*)

By: _____

Michael Coiro, Executive Director
American Federation of State, County
and Municipal Employees, Local 449

By: _____

Jan Leshner, Owner
Leshner Communications

By: _____

Lisa Lovallo, Vice President & System Manager
Cox Communications

By: _____

Laura Penny, Executive Director
Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona

By: _____

Si Schorr, Partner
Lewis & Roca, LLP

By: _____

Ron Shoopman, President
Southern Arizona Leadership Council

SLS/clc

cc: TC³ Members

List of TC³ Coalition Members

Abrahams, Ken	Duarte, Vince
Abrams, Stan	Dusenberry, Bruce
Accetta, Randy	Ewoldt, Dave
Alley, Steve	Feeter, Reynada Lynn
Almquist, Kristin	Freshwater, Diana
Anello, Nyki	Garcia, J. Felipe
Aragon, Rocelle	Godlewski, David
Ascarrunz, Lou	Greeley, Andrew T.
Assenmacher, Bill	Green, Paul
Barnes, Keith	Grinnell, Rick
Beach, Bruce	Guymon, Michael
Beecher, Charlotte	Hammond, Mike
Benson, Shanna L.	Harclerode, Andrew
Bersbach, Tom	Harris, Mark
Boice, Fred	Hearon, Duff
Boland, Ann	Heath, Tom
Bolding, Betsy	Hermon, David
Bolger, Katie	Higgins, Margaret
Brace, Sam	Higuera, David
Bremond, John	Holmberg, James
Brown, John	Humenik, John
Brown, Ruth	Jaffee, Mark
Butler, Ava S.	Jones, Gary
Carroll, Bill	Karrels, Ken PhD
Cauthorn, Joan Kaye	Kerslake, Glen
Cavanagh, Dan	King, Steve
Cervelli, Janice	Kiser, Jim
Chatfield, Don	Kiser, Shirley
Chiovetti, Arlene	Koberlein, Rosey
Click, Jim	Korn, Ben
Clinco, Judy	Krahe, Sue
Cohen, Linda	Krauss, Bill
Coiro, Michael	Lane, David
Colley, Suzette	Leshner, Jan
Cox, Jannie	Likins, Peter
Cox, Jennifer	Lippman, David
Coyle, Joe	Lopez-Grant, Lillian
Cubillos, Hermi	Lovallo, Lisa
Cunningham, George	Lynn, Steve
Dale, Deborah	Macaluso, Vince
DeCamp, Mary	Maher, Joseph Jr.
Dobbs, William	Marriott, Carmen
Dorman, Randi	McCreedy, Glenn
Duarte, Danielle	McDermott, Judy

McGovern, Molly
McGovern, Tom
Medler, Robert
Merryman, Francie
Morrison, Carol
Morton, W. Edward
Muney, Shirley G.
Myers, Rick
Neil, Rachel
Niccum, Colleen
O'Connor, Margaret
O'Hagin, Patrick
Olson, Paul
O'Rielly, Buck
Pace, Rod
Parisi, Paul
Penny, Laura
Perkins, Kathleen
Peterson, Lea
Pitt, Donald
Pittman, David
Propst, Luther
Ramirez, Robert
Ranieri, Dan
Rene, Cara
Reus, Robert
Revere, C.T.
Richter, Walter
Roe, Bill
Rogers, Jeff
Romero, Dina
Roof, Tommy
Sable, Ron

Schachter, Josh
Schellie, Leslie
Schindler, Eric PhD
Schlanger, Bob
Schlegel, Nancy
Schmidt, Daniel
Schorr, Si
Shoopman, Ron
Silvyn, Keri
Simpson, Kent
Slabaugh, R. Bruce
Smallhouse, Sarah
Smedley, Lucinda
Soto, Susan
Standridge, Lea
Stertz, Rick
Stratford, Kerry
Stuht, Paula
Tamietti, Roger
Tedesco, Philip
Thompson, Catherine
Tilden, William T.
Tofel, Steven
Underwood, Richard
Vasquez, Teresa
Veres, Diane
Wangler, Dona E.
Weaver, Josh
Whyde, Jessica
Wright, Bruce
Yarnell, Bill
Zimmerman, Carol
Zimmerman, Colin

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