

## **2010 City Charter Amendment Timeframe**

There are three available methods to place a City Charter question on the ballot. This timeframe incorporates all three methods:

- Citizen-initiated petition process
- Charter Commission recommendation
- City Council recommendation

### **2010 Calendar notes \***

In all matters, Minnesota Election Law or Minneapolis Charter is the final authority, not this calendar. Information is subject to change based on actions of the Minnesota Legislature, current rulemaking and the Minneapolis City Council. The Minnesota Legislature convenes on February 4, and must adjourn on or before May 17.

\* The Military and Overseas Empowerment Act may require Minnesota to move our Primary to August or earlier to provide for a 45-day absentee balloting period. Moving the Primary to an earlier date will also change the dates of Candidate Filing. Any decision along these lines is the responsibility of the legislature. The deadline for notifying the county about holding a local election (a Ballot Question or a Special Election) in conjunction with General Election would also be changed to provide for a 45-day absentee balloting period.

### **Meeting Schedule**

These regularly scheduled meeting dates do not preclude the Charter Commission, the City Council Committee of the Whole/IGR or City Council from scheduling special meetings.

**Calendar for a proposed City Charter question on the 2009 General Election Ballot**

May 2, 2010	Earliest date to submit a petition to place a City Charter question on the November General Election ballot <a href="#">M.S.410.10 Subd.1</a> – within six months of submission
June 2 and July 7, 2010	Regularly scheduled Charter Commission meetings to recommend Charter changes for referral to the City Council Committee of the Whole/IGR
July 1 and July 22, 2010	Regularly scheduled City Council Committee of the Whole/IGR meetings to approve ballot language before statutory deadline to propose charter amendments
August 6, 2010	Regularly scheduled City Council meeting to approve ballot language before statutory deadline to propose charter amendments
August 10, 2010	State law prohibits any City Charter question from being submitted for the November General Election ballot after this date <a href="#">M.S.410.12 Subd.1</a> - 12 weeks prior to the general election
September 10, 2010 *	Last day to submit ballot language to County Auditor <a href="#">M.S.205.16 Subd. 4</a> – 53 days prior to the General Election
November 2, 2010	General Election

**Requirement for number of signatures on a Citizen Petition**

[M.S.410.12 Subd.1](#)

State Law requires signatures from at least 5 percent of total votes cast at the previous State General Election. At the last State General Election held November 4, 2008, the number of Minneapolis residents who voted was 208,973. Signatures of at least 10,449 registered Minneapolis voters is required to submit a citizen petition.

**Verification for a Citizen Petition can take up to 25 days**

[M.S. 410.12 Subd. 3](#)

- The Minneapolis Elections and Voter Registration Office has ten (10) days to verify initial submission of signatures.
- Petitioners have ten (10) more days to obtain additional signatures if needed.
- The Minneapolis Elections and Voter Registration Office has five (5) additional days to verify additional signatures.

**Special Election required [M.S. 410.10 Subd. 1.](#)**

If a Charter Amendment petition is submitted before May 2, 2010, a Special Election would be required.