

RESOLUTION 26-21

**A RESOLUTION REFERRING A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 5.1 OF
THE ASTORIA CITY CHARTER AND APPROVING THE BALLOT TITLE**

WHEREAS, Astoria City Charter of 1997 was adopted by and may only be amended by the qualified electors of the City.

WHEREAS the Astoria City Council has proposed amendments to Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the Astoria City Charter of 1997 creating two at large council seats and providing residency requirements.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF ASTORIA:

Section 1. The Astoria City Council hereby approves proposed amendments to Section 3.1 and 3.2 of the Astoria City Charter of 1997 creating two at large council seats and providing residency requirements as described on the attached Exhibit A for referral to the qualified electors of the City of Astoria at the next general election.

Section 2. The Astoria City Council hereby approves the ballot title set forth on the attached Exhibit B and directs the City Manager to file this ballot title with the City Elections official.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 6th DAY OF JULY 2026.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Manager

ROLL CALL ON ADOPTION

~~Councilor~~
~~Commissioner~~ Davis

Mazzarella

Adams

Conklin

Mayor

Fitzpatrick

YEA NAY ABSENT

X

X

X

X

X

EXHIBIT A

Proposed Charter Amendment

Existing Text

Section 3.1 Council

The Council consists of a Mayor nominated and elected at large, two Councilors and four Councilors nominated and elected by wards with boundaries fixed by ordinance. In the case of one or more vacancies in the Council, the Council shall consist of those Council members whose offices are not vacant.

Amended Text

Section 3.1 Council

The Council consists of a Mayor nominated and elected at large, two Councilors elected at large and four Councilors nominated and elected by wards with boundaries fixed by ordinance.

Existing Text

Section 3.2 Councilors

The term of office of a Councilor in office when this Charter is adopted is the term of office for which the Councilor has been elected before adoption of the Charter (or is elected at the time of the adoption) or, in the case of an appointed Councilor, the term of that appointment as prescribed by the former Charter provisions prior to the adoption of this Charter. At each general election after the adoption, two Councilors shall be elected, each for a four year term. To qualify for Council office, the candidate must reside in the ward which the Council position represents. If an elected or appointed Councilor moves out of his/her ward, he/she shall be deemed to have forfeited his/her Council position and that position declared to be vacant by the Council.

Amended Text

Section 3.2 Councilors

The term of office of a Councilor in office when this Charter is adopted is the term of office for which the Councilor has been elected before adoption of the Charter (or is elected at the time of the adoption) or, in the case of an appointed Councilor, the term of that appointment as prescribed by the former Charter provisions prior to the adoption of this Charter. At each general election after the adoption, one Councilor shall be elected at large and two Councilors shall be elected from wards, each for a four year term. At the first general election after adoption of this Charter two at large Councilors shall be elected with one Councilor to serve a two year term and one a four year term. To qualify for Council office, the candidate must reside in the ward which the Council position represents or within the City limits as the case may be. If an elected or appointed Councilor moves out of his/her ward, or out of the City he/she shall be deemed to have forfeited his/her Council position and that position declared to be vacant by the Council.

EXHIBIT B

Proposed Ballot Title

Caption (10 words or less)

Increases Council Size, Clarifies Residency Requirements and Effect of Vacancy.

Question (20 words or less)

Shall the Charter provide for election of two at-large and four ward Councilors and revise Council residency requirements?

Summary (175 words or less)

This measure amends Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the City Charter.

The measure would provide for a City Council consisting of a Mayor, two Councilors elected at large, and four Councilors elected from wards established by ordinance. The measure would provide that, after adoption, one at-large Councilor and two ward Councilors are elected at each general election to four-year terms.

At the first election following adoption, two at-large Councilors would be elected. One would serve a two-year term, and one would serve a four-year term to establish staggered terms.

The measure would also clarify residency qualifications. Ward Councilors would be required to reside in the ward they represent. At-large Councilors would be required to reside within the City. A Councilor who no longer satisfies applicable residency requirements would forfeit office and the position would become vacant.

The measure also removes language describing the effect of vacancies on Council membership.