



YOUR GUIDE TO

NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION 2019

WHAT IS THE CHARTER?

The New York City Charter is the City's constitution. It creates a framework for our government. The Charter controls how the City spends our tax dollars, how decisions are made about changes to our neighborhoods and the power of our elected officials. Nearly 30 years ago, a Charter Revision Commission overhauled the city's government. Now it's time for a fresh look.



CHARTER 101

Significant chapters in the Charter outline the budget, planning, zoning, contracting, collective bargaining, and land use processes for the city. The Charter establishes key institutions- including City agencies such as the Department of Housing Preservation and Development, Sanitation, NYPD, 311, and more-- and defines the authority and responsibilities of these agencies and elected officials.

WHAT CAN THE CHARTER DO?

There are many areas that the Charter may regulate, but there are some limits. Here are a few examples:

✓ CAN:

- Establish the powers of and limits on City officials
- Set the stage for governmental leaders to achieve desired changes
- Decide how land in the city is developed

✗ CAN'T:

- Eliminate political infighting
- Decrease local crime
- Stop a controversial project

GOALS

1

Establish a commission to review the Charter.

2

Get public input.

3

Gather recommendations and vote.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

1. Attend a public meeting or hearing.
2. Tell us what you think.
3. VOTE!
4. Stay connected.

www.charter2019.nyc

