

THE MUNICIPALITY OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



CITY CHARTER

Preamble

We The People,

under authority conferred by the Constitution of the United States, the People of the Municipality of Washington, District of Columbia (*hereafter referred to as D.C.*) enact this Charter as the establishment of the municipality for the purpose of protecting and enhancing the development, safety, security, and general welfare of the people; to enable the district to effectively provide services and meet the needs of the people efficiently; to allow fair and equitable participation of all persons in the events of the City; to provide for transparency, accountability, and ethics in governance and civil service; to foster fiscal responsibility; to promote prosperity and to meet the broad needs for a healthy, growing City.

Bill of Rights

The people of the City of D.C., by adoption of this Charter, create and continue a body corporate known as the "City of Washington, D.C." and provide for continuing control of their municipal corporation.

The D.C. City Council shall not, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another Municipality, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

Full faith and Credit shall be given in D.C. to the public Acts, Records and Proceedings of every other Municipality.

The powers not delegated to Congress may be legislated in the D.C. City Council.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the Municipalities. D.C. shall not make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any Municipality deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law in a

federal district Court; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

No person shall hold any office in D.C. as a member of the D.C. City Council or as an executive officer of D.C. that has not made a pledge to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion) The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by D.C. City Council on account of race, color, previous condition of servitude, gender or failure to pay debt.

Introduction

§ 1. The city. The city of D.C. as now existing shall continue with the boundaries and with the powers, rights and property, and subject to the obligations and liabilities which exist at the time when this charter shall take effect.

Article I // Mayor

§ 1 Office powers. The mayor shall be the chief executive officer of the city.

§ 2. Election term. The mayor shall be elected at the general election in the year twenty eighteen, and in the month January, and every three months thereafter. The mayor shall hold office for a term of three months the day after following such election. A mayor who resigns or is removed from office prior to the completion of a full term shall be deemed to have held that office for a full term.

§ 3. Monthly statement to council. The mayor shall communicate to the council at least once in a month a statement of the finances, government and affairs of the city with a summary statement of the activities of the agencies of the city.

§ 4. Heads of departments; appoint; remove.

a. The mayor shall appoint the heads of administrations, departments, all commissioners and all other officers not elected by the people, except as otherwise provided by law.

b. The mayor, whenever in his judgment the public interest shall so require, may remove from office any public officer holding office by appointment from a mayor of the city, except

officers for whose removal other provision is made by law. No public officer shall hold his office for any specific term, except as otherwise provided by law.

§ 5. Deputy mayors. The mayor shall appoint one deputy mayor with such duties and responsibilities as the mayor determines and shall be a voting member of the city council.

§ 6. General powers. The mayor, subject to this charter, shall exercise all the powers vested in the city, except as otherwise provided by law.

a. The mayor shall be responsible for the effectiveness and integrity of city government operations and shall establish and maintain such policies and procedures as are necessary and appropriate to accomplish this responsibility including the implementation of effective systems of internal control by each agency and unit under the jurisdiction of the mayor.

§7. Removal of mayor. The mayor may be removed from office by the city council—with two-thirds concurring—upon a petition by the people of the city of D.C.

§8. Succession.

a. In case of the removal of the mayor from office the powers and duties of the office of mayor shall devolve upon the deputy mayor.

b. If the deputy mayor is unable to succeed the office of mayor or a deputy mayor is not in office to succeed the office of mayor, the office shall devolve upon the most senior member of the city council.

i. If there are city council members who hold equal seniority, the office shall devolve upon the name selected from a random generator as prescribed by the Founder or his designated clan manager (*hereafter referred to as the clan manager*).

Article II // City Council

§ 1. The Council. There shall be a council which shall be the legislative body of the city. In addition to the other powers vested in it by this charter and other law, the council shall be vested with the legislative power of the city. Any enumeration of powers in this charter shall not be held to limit the legislative power of the council, except as specifically provided in this charter.

§ 2. Composition of council.

a. The council shall consist of the deputy mayor and of eight other council members.

§ 3. Election; term; vacancies.

a. The members of the city council shall be elected by the electors of the city of D.C. every three months, either before or after the election of the mayor. The clan manager shall hold all elections and make the determination of whether to hold the election of the city council before and after the election of the mayor.

b. Members of the city council shall hold their office for three months commencing immediately following the results of the elections made by the clan manager.

c. If a vacancy occurs within the city council, the mayor, with the advice and consent of the remaining city council, shall fill the vacancy lasting until the end of the term.

§4. Powers of council.

a. The council in addition to all enumerated powers shall have power to adopt local laws which it deems appropriate, which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this charter or with the constitution or laws of the United States, for the good rule and government of the city; for the order, protection and government of persons and property; for the preservation of the public health, comfort, peace and prosperity of the city and its inhabitants; and to effectuate the purposes and provisions of this charter or of the other laws relating to the city.

b. The council shall have power to provide for the enforcement of local laws by legal or equitable proceedings, to prescribe that violations thereof shall constitute misdemeanors, offenses or infractions and to provide for the punishment of violations thereof by civil penalty, fine, forfeiture or imprisonment, or by two or more of such punishments. However, such proceedings must be held in the federal district court.

§ 5. Power of advice and consent. Appointment by the mayor of the heads of local departments shall be done with the advice and consent of the city council.

§ 6. Local laws. Except as otherwise provided by law, all legislative action by the council shall be by local law. The style of local law shall be "Be it enacted by the council as follows." Every local law shall embrace only one subject. The title shall briefly refer to the subject-matter.

§ 7. Vote required for local law or resolution. Except as otherwise provided by law, no local law or resolution shall be passed except by at least the majority affirmative vote of all the members voting.

§ 8. Local laws; action by mayor. a. Every local law certified by the clerk of the council, after its passage by the council, shall be presented to the mayor for approval.

a. If the mayor approves the local law, the mayor shall sign it and return; it shall then be deemed to have been adopted. If the mayor disapproves it, he or she shall return it with his or her objections stated in writing. The council within fourteen thereafter may reconsider the same. If after such reconsideration the votes of two-thirds of all the council members be cast in favor of repassing such local law, it shall be deemed adopted, notwithstanding the objections of the mayor. Only one vote shall be had upon such reconsideration.

§ 9. Amendment of charter. Amendments to this charter may be adopted by any of the following methods:

a. Two-thirds of the city council.

b. A majority vote of the city council and then by the electoral of D.C.

§ 10. President. The council shall elect from among its members a President and such other officers as it deems appropriate. The President shall preside over the meetings of the council.

§ 11. Sergeant-at-arms; procedure; expulsion of members. The council may elect a sergeant-at-arms; shall be the judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members, subject, however, to review by any court of competent jurisdiction; shall have authority to compel the attendance of absent members and to punish its members for disorderly behavior, and to expel any member, after charges and a hearing, with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the council members.

§ 12. Rules of the council. The council, with consent from the clan manager, shall determine the rules of its own proceedings.

§ 13. The city council is vested the power to create and remove departments of the city government.

§ 14. The city council is vested the power to recommend to the clan manager changes to D.C. in relation to development, including but not limited to in-game features and team assignment

Article III // D.C. Police Department

§1. Department; chief.

a. There shall be a police department the head of which shall be the chief who shall be appointed by the mayor and shall hold, unless removed by the mayor, the office during good behavior.

b. Whenever in the judgment of the mayor or the public interests shall so require, the chief may be removed from office by either.

c. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the office of chief, a chief shall be appointed by the mayor within ten days thereafter.

§2. Deputy Chief; The chief shall have the power to appoint and at pleasure remove one deputy chief. During the absence or disability of the chief, the deputy chief, or if he shall be absent or under disability shall possess all the powers and perform all the duties of the sheriff.

§3. Chief; powers and duties.

a. The chief shall have cognation and control of the government, administration, disposition and discipline of the department.

b. The chief shall be the chief executive officer of the police force. He shall be chargeable with and responsible for the execution of all laws and the rules and regulations of the department.

§4. Department; duties.

a. The police department and force shall have the power and it shall be their duty to preserve the public peace, prevent crime, detect and arrest offenders, suppress riots, mobs and insurrections, disperse unlawful or dangerous assemblages and assemblages which obstruct the free passage of public streets, sidewalks, parks and places; protect the rights of persons and property, guard the public health, preserve order at elections and all public meetings and assemblages, regulate, direct, control and restrict the movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic for the facilitation of traffic and the convenience of the public as well as the proper protection of human life and health; remove all nuisances in the public streets, parks and places; arrest all street mendicants and beggars; enforce and prevent the violation of all laws and

ordinances in force in the city; and for these purposes to arrest all persons guilty of violating any law or ordinance for the suppression or punishment of crimes or offenses.

Article IV // D.C. Fire Department

§1. Department; chief.

a. There shall be a fire department the head of which shall be the chief who shall be appointed by the mayor and shall hold, unless removed by the mayor, the office during good behavior.

b. Whenever in the judgment of the mayor or the public interests shall so require, the chief may be removed from office by either.

c. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the office of chief, a chief shall be appointed by the mayor within ten days thereafter.

§2. Deputy Chief; The chief shall have the power to appoint and at pleasure remove one deputy chief. During the absence or disability of the chief, the deputy chief, or if he shall be absent or under disability shall possess all the powers and perform all the duties of the chief.

§3. Chief; powers and duties.

a. The chief shall have cognizance and control of the government, administration, disposition and discipline of the department.

b. The chief shall be the chief executive officer of the fire department. He shall be chargeable with and responsible for the execution of all laws and the rules and regulations of the department.

§4. Department; duties.

a. The fire department and force shall have the power and it shall be their duty to support the public health; restrict the movement of public vehicular and public pedestrian traffic for the proper protection of human life and health; enter properties to perform fire-combating and medical assistance; operate public vehicles to support their duties; non-destructively bypass traffic laws in the event of an emergency; perform the duties needed to ensure the upholding of public health and structural integrity.