Pinellas County Charter Review
2015-2016

November 19, 2015
Agenda

1. Charter Commission Members
2. Purpose of the County Charter
3. Charter Review Commission
4. Ways to Amend the Charter
5. Charter Review Process
6. Input from the Public

November 19, 2015
Charter Commission Members

- Dr. Jim Olliver, Chairman
- Tom Steck, Vice Chairman
- Larry Ahern
- Johnny Bardine
- Keisha Bell
- Sandra Lee Bradbury
- Ken Burke

- Ashley Caron
- Barclay Harless
- Janet C. Long
- Todd Pressman
- James Sewell
- Joshua Shulman

November 19, 2015
Purpose of the County Charter

- Specifies the structure of government
- Allows powers of self-government unless inconsistent with the Constitution or State law
- May provide for initiative, referendum, and recall at the county level
- May require an Administrative Code detailing all regulations, policies, and procedures
- May provide that a “municipal utility tax” is levied in the unincorporated area
Charter Review Commission (CRC)

- Appointed by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) from pool of applicants
- Independent from the BOCC
- Begins convening in August; Completes review by July 31
- Comprised of Pinellas County representatives:
  - 1 Legislative Delegation Member
  - 1 Constitutional Officer
  - 1 Elected City Official
  - 1 Board of County Commissioner
  - 9 from Public at large (may not be an elected official)
Ways to Amend the Charter

3 methods/processes for amending the Charter

• The Board of County Commissioners can pass an ordinance to propose an amendment to the Charter.

• An amendment can be proposed via petition signed by registered voters.

• The Charter Review Commission, which convenes once every 8 years can propose amendments.

November 19, 2015
The Charter Review Commission:
• Identifies charter amendment topics
• Becomes educated on the topic(s)
• Determines whether to create a referendum on the topic
• Approves the language for the specific charter amendment(s) and for the ballot language
• Conducts 2 mandatory Public hearings before final report to BOCC

Upon completion of the process, referendum(s) added to ballot for November election.
Input from the Public

• Charter Review Website:
  http://www.pinellascounty.org/charter/default.htm
  – Email your thoughts for an amendment (Contact Us)
  – Use the Public Input form to craft more specifics on an amendment

• Attend a charter review commission meeting and speak during the Public Input period

• Speak to a commissioner in forums like this

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