

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Charter?

The City of Fruitland Park's Charter, the governing document, comparable to the State Constitution, defines the city's powers, operations, and essential procedures. The city commission established and appointed members to serve on the Charter Review Committee.

What is a Charter Review Committee?

The Charter Review Committee was established by the city commission on November 21, 2013 by Resolution 2013-024.

When are the Meetings Being Held?

All Charter Review Committee meetings are noticed and open to the public. Its first organizational meeting was held on January 30, 2014 and the next meeting will be held on February 11, 2014 at 6:00 p.m., City Hall, 506, West Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731. Future meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month and dates, times and locations may be subject to change.

Who serves on the committee?

The following members of the Charter Review Committee reside in the City of Fruitland Park:

- Mr. George "Mackie" McCabe, Chair;
- Ms. Danielle Daugherty, Vice Chair;
- Mr. Steven "Steve" W. Fussell;
- Mr. Ray Lewis, and
- Ms. Pam Washburn

What will the committee do?

The Charter Review Committee will:

- provide minutes of the meetings for public inspection;
- study and review the entire charter for revisions or amendments to the city's existing charter;
- hold at least one advertised public hearing to receive input from the general public concerning the advisability of amending the city charter;
- make recommendations brought to its attention by the city commission, the city manager, the city attorney, or the city clerk, and
- present its written findings and recommendations to the city commission within 180 days (October 10, 2014) of its first meeting with the right to extend if necessary.

After the committee, what happens next?

The city commission will:

- review the findings and recommendations of the committee;
- determine whether the existing charter should be amended or revised;
- prepare ordinance(s) to amend or revise the existing charter, and
- upon passage of the ordinance(s) (except boundaries), submit the proposed amendment(s) to qualified registered voters in the City of Fruitland Park by referendum to be incorporated in the charter at the November 4, 2014 general election, and
- the revised charter will be filed with the Department of State.

The city commission may, by ordinance and without a referendum (not subject to the voters), redefine its boundaries to include only those lands previously annexed and shall file said redefinition with the Department of State.

When can the public provide input?

The public is encouraged to submit verbal and written comments to the committee during the public comment portion of the committee agenda. Anyone can bring subject matters relating to the charter to the attention of the committee by the city commission, city manager, city attorney, or city clerk.