

2015-2016 HONOLULU CHARTER COMMISSION  
CHARTER AMENDMENT PROPOSAL FORM

1. Please provide a brief description of the proposed Charter amendment, the purpose of the proposed Charter amendment, the issue or problem to be addressed by the proposal, and how the proposal would address the issue or problem.

**Place the employee positions, other than the Executive Secretary position, for the Neighborhood Commission (Article XIV) within the civil service system.**

Due to the immediate termination of a majority of the staff, the 2005 and 2013 transitions to the new City Administrations under Mayor Hannemann and Mayor Caldwell were particularly difficult for the operations of the Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO), the conduct of the 2005 and 2013 Neighborhood Board System elections, and the (lack of) quality of services provided to the 33 neighborhood boards, their 444 elected members, and the public. All of the NCO staff positions are patronage positions appointed by the mayor, not otherwise filled by the executive secretary or the 9-member Neighborhood Commission. A requisite level of professionalism, expertise, continuity, and esprit de corps is strongly needed in the NCO.

Accordingly, part (1) of Question No. 1 of the proposed City Charter Amendments for the 2004 general election made this proposal. Also included, however, as part (2) of Question No. 1 was the proposal that civil service status be conferred on the qualified incumbents occupying those employee positions without necessity of examination. I strongly believe that the presentation on the 2004 general election ballot of these two separate issues in the form of a single compound question led to the overwhelming rejection of Question No. 1 by the electorate, while Questions No. 2, 3, and 4 were duly adopted.

I do not propose that a transition provision be provided for the present NCO employees as was proposed in Question No. 1.

2. If applicable, list the Charter provision(s) affected by the proposal.

RCH Section 6-1103(b).

3. If the proposal is based on a provision or provisions in the charter or laws of another jurisdiction, name the jurisdiction and, if possible, attach a copy of each provision or law.

Not applicable.

4. If the proposal is based on any written materials you have, please attach a copy of each with a citation to its source.

See the 8 page brochure entitled "Proposed City Charter Amendments City and County of Honolulu for the 2004 General Election" that set forth Questions No. 1 to 4; this proposal was part (1) of Question No. 1. (Prepared by the City Clerk?)

5. Attach the text of the proposed Charter amendment in Ramseyer format.

**Section 6-1103. Civil Service and Executive Branch Exemptions –**

...

(b) Positions in the office of the mayor, but such positions shall be included in the position classification plan. Employees of the civil defense agency [and], Royal Hawaiian Band, other than the band director, and neighborhood commission, other than the executive secretary, shall not be exempted from civil service.