

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.

Revisor of Charter Designation; Publication of Charter as Amended

The Charter needs to be amended to specifically designate the title and permanent responsibility of “revisor of charter” to the Department of the Corporation Counsel (preferred over the City Clerk).

RCH Sections 15-101 and 15-106 refer to the corporation counsel as the revisor; Section 15-106 includes “a duly authorized revisor of charter”; and Section 3-205 requires the codification of ordinances by either the corporation counsel or a qualified contractor (which the City uses).

What is not specifically stated is that the Department of the Corporation Counsel **shall** serve as the permanent revisor of charter; be responsible for maintaining the Charter in its current form as amended, and the legislative and electoral history of all revisions and amendments; and publish and make readily available the Charter in its current form as a user-friendly, complete document in both hard copy and electronic formats (not just the present individual sections in sequential electronic files that must be viewed and printed one at a time – **auwe!**).

Several years ago the City decided to no longer publish the Charter in hard copy book form, or even the Supplement. It is also difficult to find in its electronic form on www.honolulu.gov – ultimately you get to the section files as part of the Department of Corporation Counsel website, but the section files are not promptly updated like the Hawaii Revised Statutes sections as maintained by the Revisor of Statutes at the Legislative Reference Bureau of the State of Hawaii.

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

Possibly Section 5-203 (powers, duties, and functions of the corporation counsel); adding a new section to Article V, Chapter 2 (Department of the Corporation Counsel); and Article XV, Charter Amendment or Revision.

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.

Not applicable.

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

Draft language not prepared at this time, pending Charter Commission discussion.