

Portland Charter Review



OMF OFFICE OF
MANAGEMENT
AND FINANCE



What is a city charter?

- Functions as city's constitution
- Creates city as legal entity
- Authorizes city powers
- Outlines basic, broad fundamentals of city government
- Concise
- Avoid need for frequent amendment
- Amended by the people



Periodic Charter Review

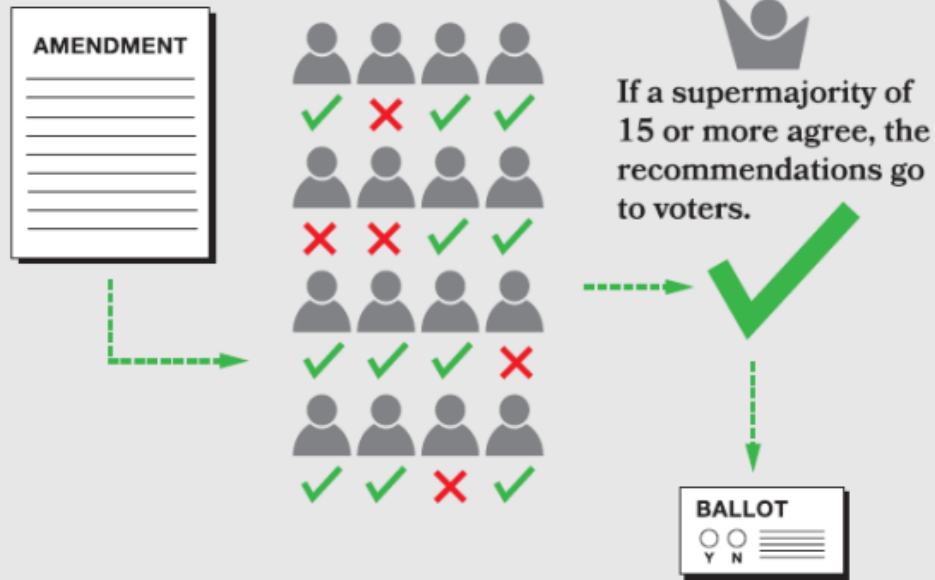
“From time to time, but no less frequently than every 10 years, the Council shall convene a Charter review commission to review and recommend amendments to this Charter”

A vertical sign for Portland, Oregon, with the word "PORTLAND" in large, white, serif letters on a dark background. The sign is ornate with decorative flourishes at the top and bottom. At the bottom, there is a smaller sign that says "TODAY".

Role of the Charter Commission

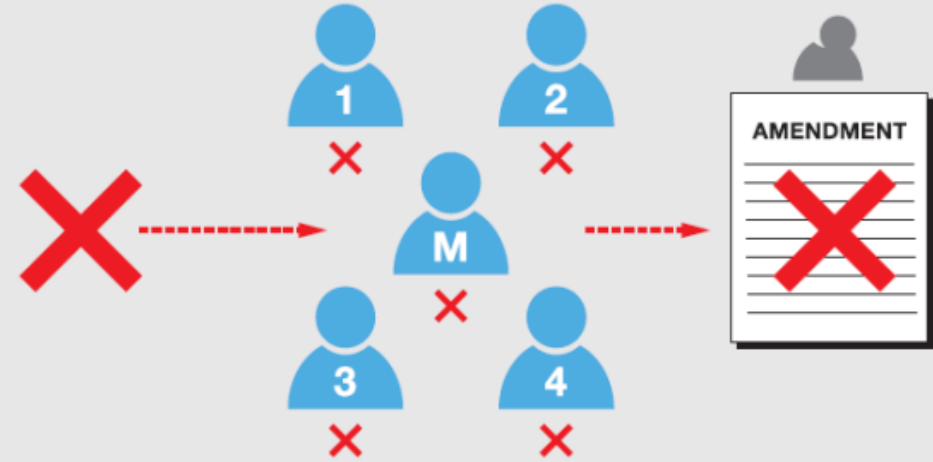
- Determine its own rules of procedure
- Review and recommend amendments to the Charter
- Provide a written report of its findings to City Council

The Commission has broad latitude to recommend amendments to the City Charter.



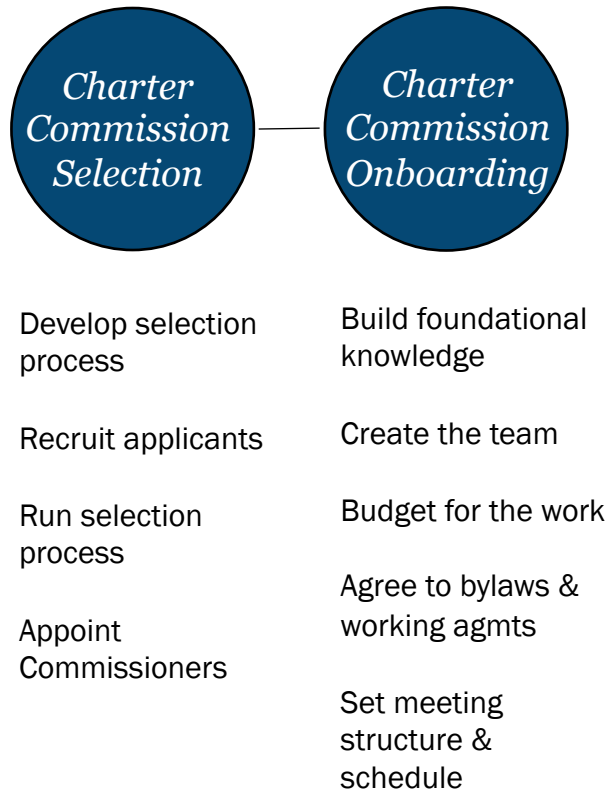
OR

If there's no supermajority, the city council can accept, reject, or modify any recommendations.



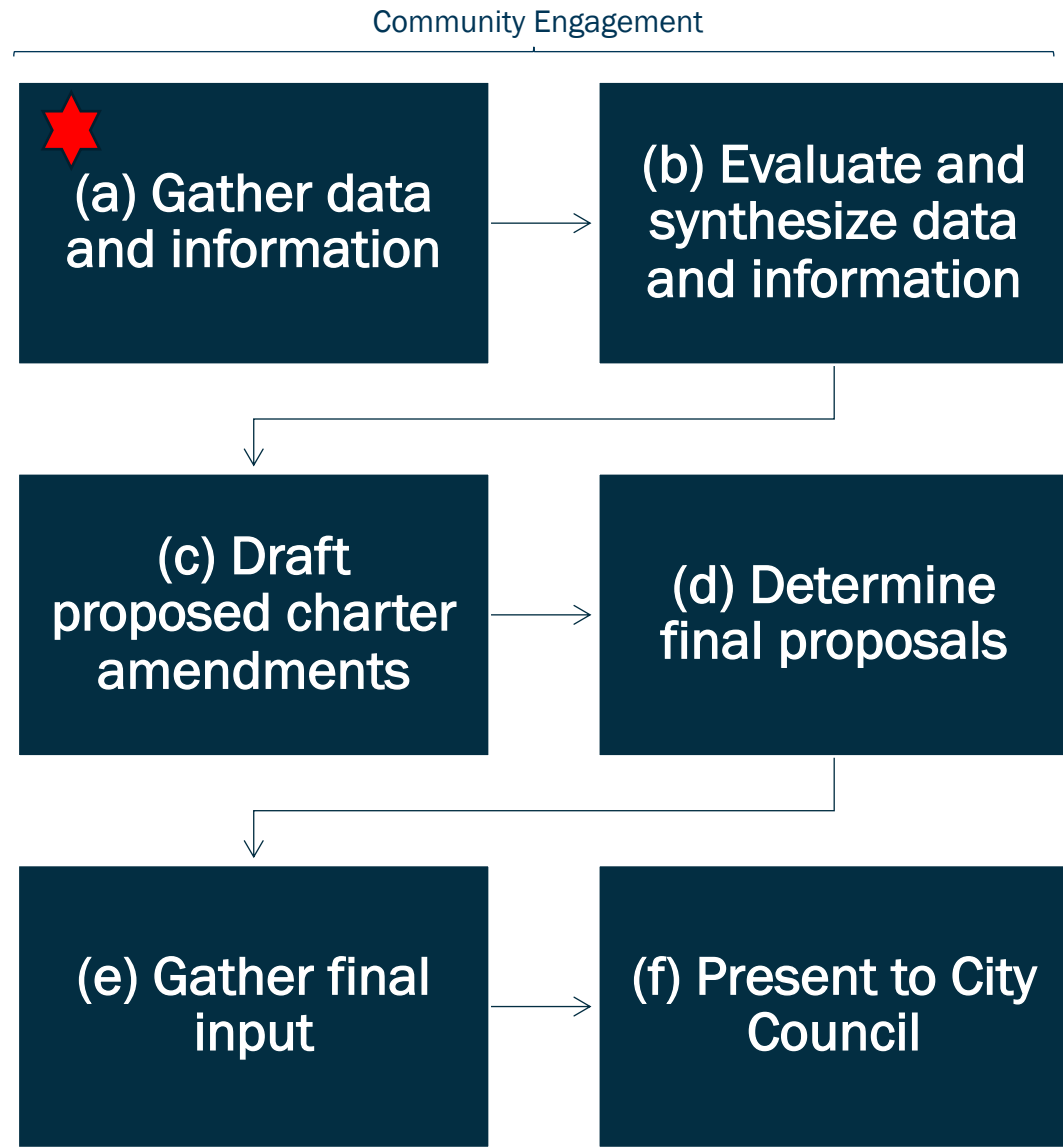
Summer 2020 – Spring 2021

Phase 1: BUILD THE FOUNDATION



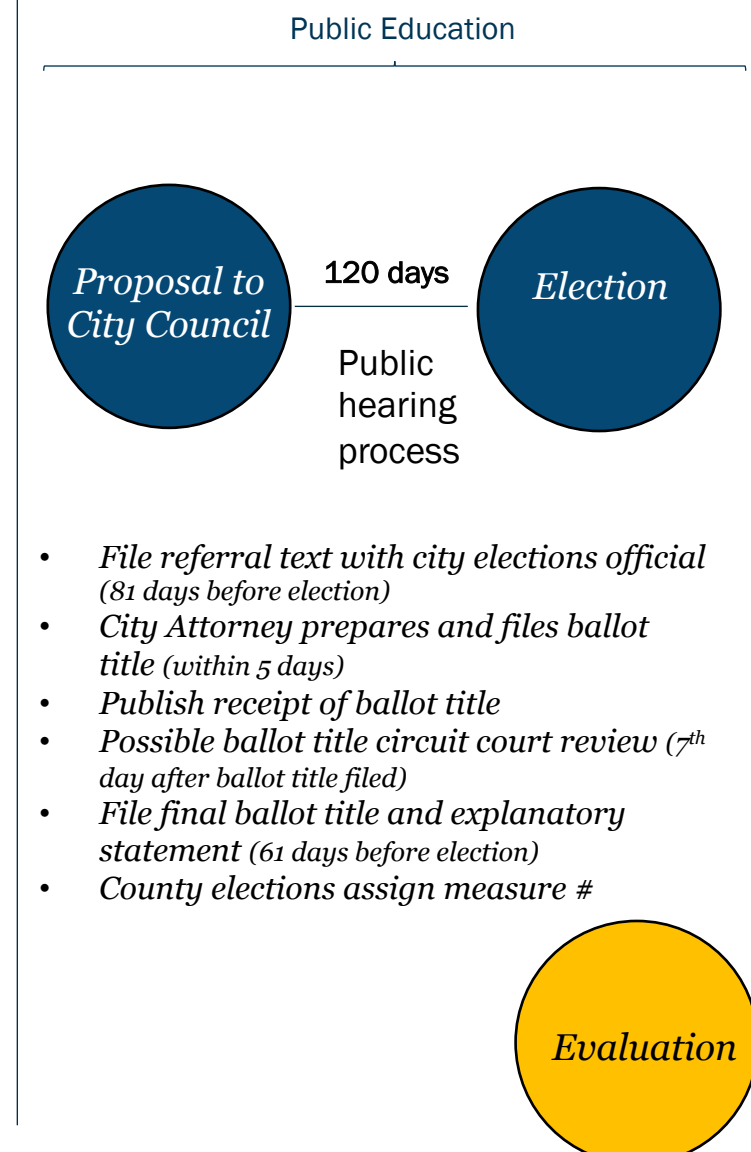
Spring 2021 – **June 2022** (or Spring 2021-December 2022)

Phase 2: REVIEW CHARTER & DRAFT AMENDMENTS



July 7, 2022 – **November 8, 2022**
(or January 2023 – May 2023)

Phase 3: SUBMIT TO VOTERS



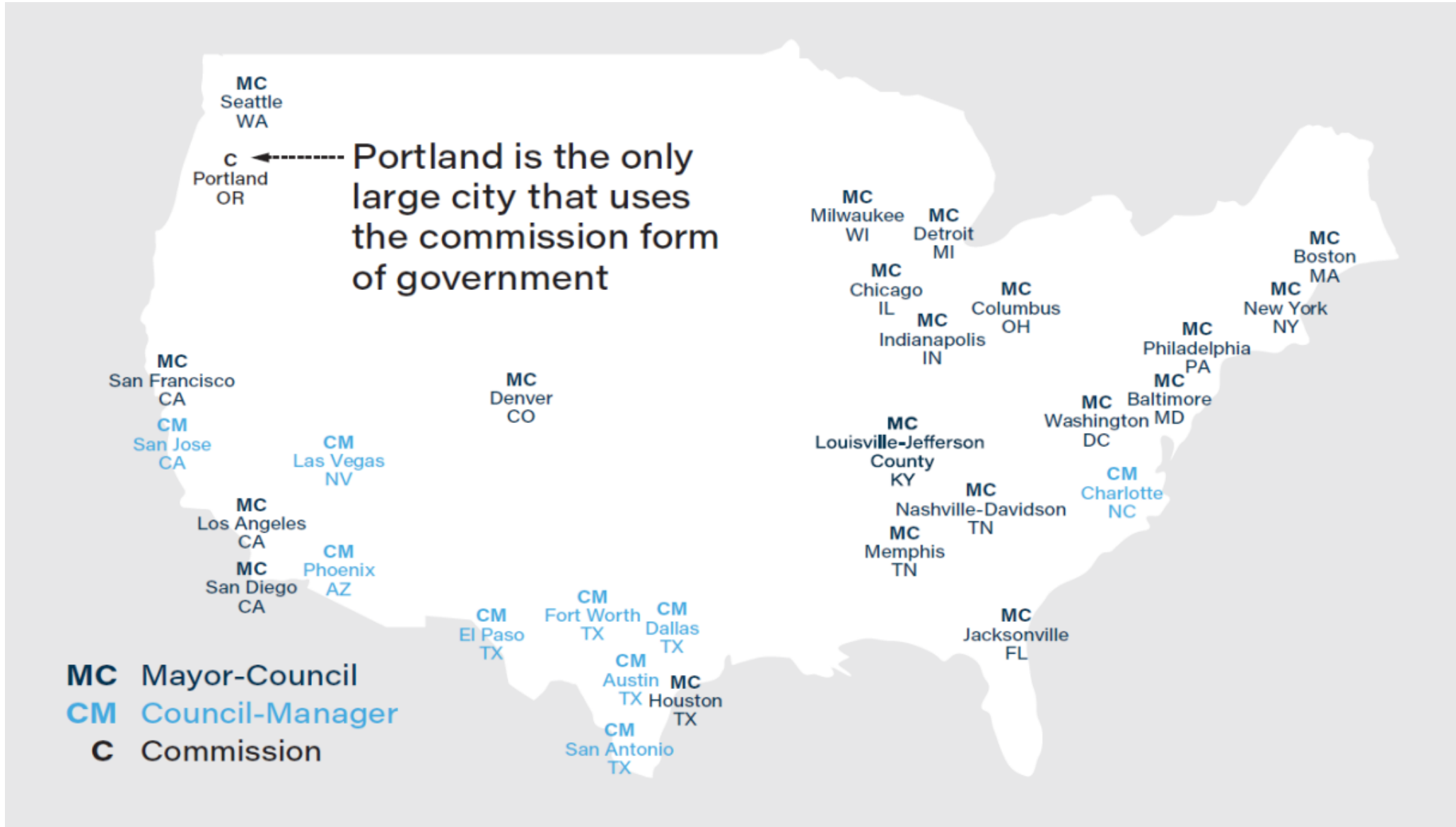
Approved Subcommittees

Form of Government

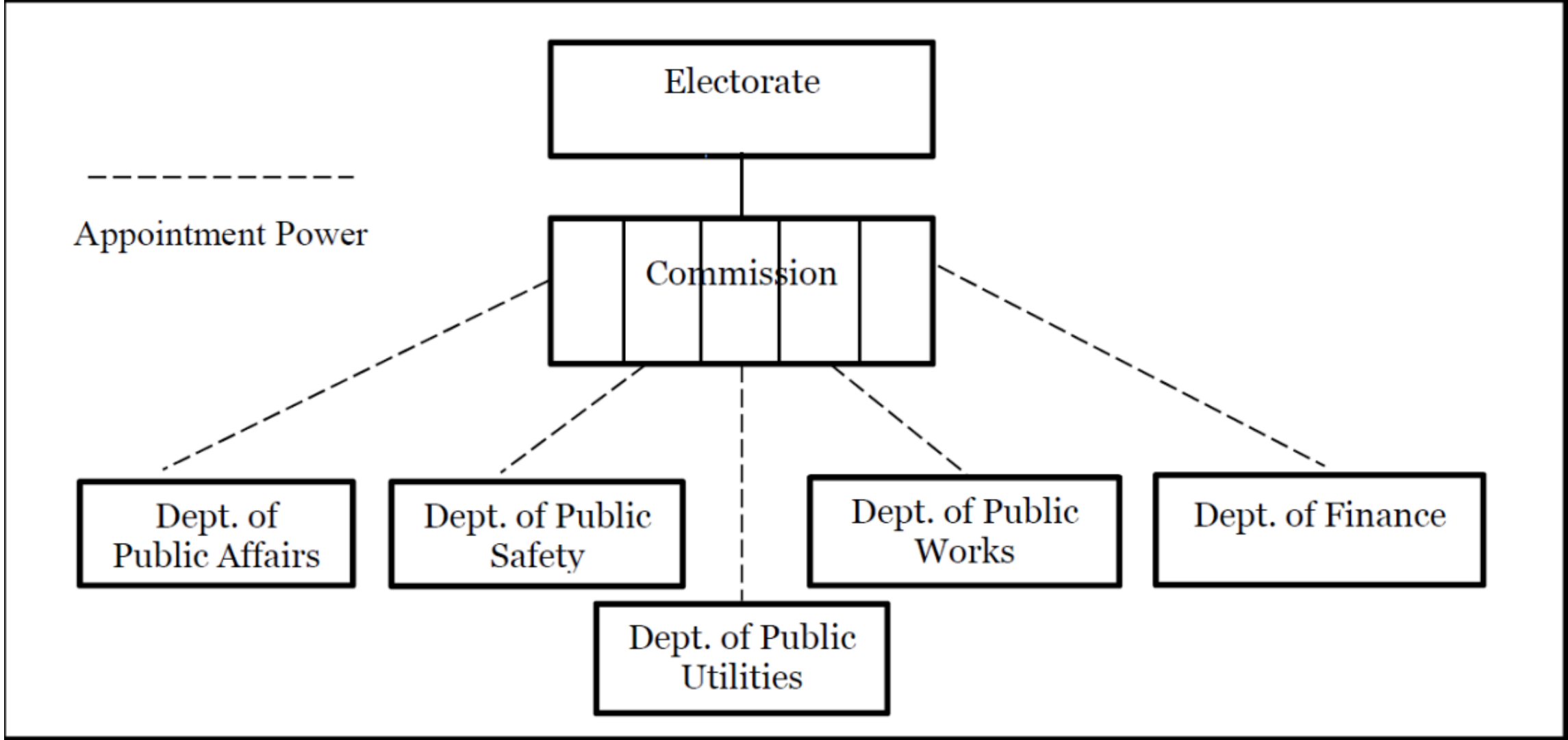
- **What form of government should we have?**
- **What should the roles of the Mayor and City Council be?**
- **Should we have a city manager?**
- **How should bureaus be managed?**

City Council Elections

- **What should the constituency of city councilors be, e.g. city-wide, district-based, hybrid?**
- **How many city councilors should we have?**
- **What form of voting should we use to elect city councilors?**
- **How should we time city council elections?**



Source: City Club of Portland



Galveston, Texas (1900)



Galveston Disaster, Public school 25th st. and Ave P.

Additional Charter Issues

Police accountability
Homelessness
Economic development & the role of Prosper Portland
Centralization & standardization of City services
Budgeting & contracting
Expanded voting rights
Auditor's Office
Permits
Embedding community values into the Charter
Mental health
Zoning
Campaign finance
Municipal bank
Open & Accountable Elections
Workers' rights / working conditions
Racial and gender justice commission
Tax governance & equity

City's Core Values

Anti-racism
Equity
Transparency
Communication
Collaboration
Fiscal Responsibility

Upcoming Public Meetings

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| June 28 th | Information Session with Public Comment |
| July 6 th | Community Engagement Committee |
| July 7 th | Information Session Planning Committee |
| July 14 th | Charter Learning Session |
| July 20 th | Operations Meeting |
| July 22 nd | Information Session with Public Comment |

Charter Commission webpage:

www.Portland.gov/omf/charter-review-commission

Sign up for updates, provide feedback and follow the work

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