

Augusta-Richmond County Georgia Charter Review Committee on Resolution Draft

1. The Augusta-Richmond County Commission approved a motion to approve tasking the Clerk of Commission to engage The University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government to begin the process of leading and providing guidance to Augusta Richmond County down the path towards the creation of a charter review committee.
2. The Charter Review Committee on is to study the charter of Augusta, Georgia, and provide a comprehensive review and propose changes and updates to the existing charter.
3. The committee shall be composed of eleven (11) members representing a fair cross section of citizens in the community, one (1) member shall be appointed by the Mayor of Augusta, Georgia and one member shall be appointed by each member of the Augusta Commission.
4. The appointed commission shall vote to designate the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary of the Commission.
5. The Chairperson shall preside over all meetings. In absence of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson shall preside.
6. A quorum of the committee shall consist of seven (7) members.
7. Upon appointment of members to the Charter Review Committee, Meeting dates and times need to be established. Preferably recommended by CVIOG.
8. The Charter Review Committee shall be a body independent of the Augusta Richmond County Commission and will work under the guidance of the University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government.
9. Appointed Committee members must be residents of Richmond County. Committee members cannot be current or former elected officials, cannot be members of any existing county board or authority, and cannot be an employee of the county.
10. Members shall serve without compensation.

11. Any member of the Commission may be removed by the Council for malfeasance, failure to attend three or more consecutive meetings (except for absences due to illness of the commission member or an immediate family member, birth or adoption of child, and military service), or willful neglect of duty.
 - The entity or official that made the official appointment shall fill the vacancy in the same manner as the original appointment.
 - If that entity or official fails to fill the vacancy within 20 business days from the written notice, the Mayor shall fill the vacancy.
12. The Charter Committee shall convene from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025.
13. The Augusta Richmond County Clerk of the Commission shall be responsible for administrative support to the Charter Review Committee.
14. All meetings held by the Charter Committee shall be open to the public and meeting notices shall be widely distributed through local publications, the internet and electronic mail. Proceedings of the Charter Committee shall be taped and available for on-demand viewing on the County's website.
15. The Charter Committee shall submit its final written recommendation(s) of any suggested revisions, updates, or changes to the charter no later than December 31, 2025, to the Mayor and Augusta-Richmond County commission.
16. A copy of the final report shall also be presented to each member of the Augusta Legislative Delegation, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House and chairpersons of the Senate State and Local Governmental Operations committee and the House Governmental Affairs committee. A copy of the final report shall also be made available to the public.
17. All proposed final recommended changes and updates will be submitted to the Augusta Local Legislative Delegation for approval in the Georgia General Assembly.