

EXECUTIVE BRIEF REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA DATE: November 2, 2021

DEPARTMENT: City Commission

TITLE:

Ordinance No. 2021-22 – First Reading – Ballot language for changing to single-member district voting, with the mayor remaining at-large

SUMMARY:

The ordinance provides a referendum question for the March 8, 2022, General Election to change to single-member voting by district with the mayor remaining at-large.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

The Charter Review Committee submitted recommendations to the City Commission regarding possible ballot questions at the October 5, 2021 regular meeting. The committee members recommended changing the voting from at-large for all commission seats to single-member voting so that voters would only cast a ballot for the commissioner in their district. Voting for the mayor would remain at large with all voters voting for the mayor and the commissioners would continue to represent and act for the benefit of all residents.

According to Article III – Legislative, Section 1 – City commission; powers and composition of the Charter, the five (5) commission members shall be elected by the electors of the city-at-large. The Charter Review Committee members felt that changing to single-member voting by district would encourage more voters to turn out to vote for the representative for their district; currently the districts with larger voter turn out impact who is elected in other districts.

The Commission gave consensus to move forward with a ballot question regarding single-member district voting at the October 19, 2021 regular meeting.

MOTION:

Move to approve/disapprove Ordinance 2021-22 on first reading and set the second reading and public hearing for November 16, 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Fiscal Impact Analysis – N/A
Ordinance 2021-22