

Q1: CHARTER PREAMBLE UPDATE

The following language will be added to the charter as a Preamble

Pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Florida, the people of the City of Edgewater adopt this Charter as the fundamental law of the City to provide for the protection of public health, safety, the environment, and welfare; to preserve and exercise municipal home rule authority; to establish a system of municipal government that is transparent, accountable, and subject to ethical standards; and to promote responsible planning and fiscal stewardship in the administration of City affairs.

The City shall exercise and defend its municipal home rule powers to the fullest extent permitted by the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida.

Consistent with these purposes, the City affirms the following commitments:

(a) To maintain a legal defense fund for the protection of the City's governmental interests and Charter authority, subject to oversight and accountability;

(b) To evaluate major programs, grants, contracts, and expenditures for fiscal impact and public benefit;

(c) To include performance and repayment provisions in public funding agreements, where appropriate; and

(d) To provide an annual public State of the City report summarizing municipal operations, fiscal conditions, priorities, and goals.

(e) Declares stormwater rights to establish a foundation for legal action, policy alignment, and future ordinances.

Q2: Expanding Council to 6 Members at 37,000

Sec. 3.01 – Composition

There shall be a city council consisting of a mayor and four council members elected at large by the qualified electors of the City. One council member shall be elected from each of four voting districts. **When the official population of the City, as shown by the official census exceeds thirty-seven thousand (37,000), the City Council shall, by ordinance, increase the number of council members to six (6) by creating two (2) additional voting districts, with one council member elected from each of the two newly created districts at the next regularly scheduled city election.**

Q3: Redistricting Every 5 years

Sec. 3.02 – Districts

The city council shall by ordinance apportion the city into four voting districts numbered one through four which shall be as nearly equal in population as possible. Within six months after official publication of the decennial census, the city council shall by ordinance adjust the district boundaries as required to provide for four districts as nearly equal in population as possible. **Five (5) years after the adoption of that redistricting ordinance, the city council shall again, by ordinance, adjust the district boundaries using the most recent population data available from an independent governmental source to provide for council districts as nearly equal in population as possible.**

Q4 Appointed City Clerk

Sec. 4.06. – City clerk.

The City **shall maintain the position of City Clerk. The city manager shall appoint the city clerk and establish the terms of employment and level of compensation.** The city clerk shall keep the journal of city council proceedings and be the official custodian of public records. The city clerk shall serve as the elections clerk and shall perform any other duties prescribed by general law, this Charter, or as may be required by the city council. **The city clerk shall report to and be under the supervision and direction of the city manager.** The city manager **may remove the city clerk in accordance with applicable personnel policies.**

Q5 Native Plants

Sec. 1.01. General powers.

(f) Native and Florida-Friendly Landscaping Requirement.

(1) The City Council shall adopt and maintain land development regulations requiring that all new construction within the corporate limits of the City of Edgewater provide landscaping consisting of not less than eighty percent (80%) native and/or Florida-Friendly plants, as defined by ordinance.

Q6 Stem Walls

Sec. 1.01. General powers.

(g) Stem wall requirement for new construction.

(1) In order to address flooding and further protect the public health, safety, and welfare, the City Council shall adopt land development regulations requiring that all new construction within the corporate limits of the City of Edgewater be constructed using stem wall foundations, without raising the land as defined by ordinance.

Q7 Water Conserving Fixtures

Sec. 1.01. General powers.

(h) Water-conserving fixtures required for new construction.

(1) In order to further protect the public health, safety, and welfare and to conserve the City's water resources, the City Council shall adopt land development regulations requiring that all new construction within the corporate limits of the City of Edgewater install water-conserving fixtures as defined by ordinance.

Q8 Annexation

Sec. 1.01. General powers.

(i) Annexed property; limitation on increase in density or intensity.

(1) To protect the public health, safety, and welfare and preserve existing development patterns, property annexed into the corporate limits of the City of Edgewater shall not be assigned or approved for a land use density or intensity greater than that permitted under the applicable county land use designation and zoning classification in effect immediately prior to annexation.

Q9 Sale of City Parks

Sec. 1.01(j) – Sale of City Park Property.

(1) Voter Approval Required.

Real property owned by the City of Edgewater and designated as a public park by the city shall not be sold, transferred, or otherwise conveyed unless the sale is first approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors of the City of Edgewater at a referendum held during a regular or special municipal election.

Q10 Sale of City Hall

Sec. 1.01(L) – Sale of City Hall.

(1) Voter Approval Required.

Real property owned by the City of Edgewater and designated as the city hall shall not

be sold, transferred, or otherwise conveyed unless the sale is first approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors of the City of Edgewater at a referendum held during a regular or special municipal election.

Q11 Community Engagement

Sec. 1.01. (k) Community engagement and public information.

(1) The City Council shall adopt and maintain an ordinance establishing a Community Engagement and Public Information program to provide residents meaningful opportunities to present issues, concerns, and priorities to City officials and to participate in the development of City policies, ordinances, programs, and actions. The City may expend public funds for community engagement activities and for informing and educating the public regarding municipal issues, policies, programs, and services, and such expenditures are declared to serve a valid municipal and public purpose.

Q12 Acting City Manager

Sec. 4.03. Acting city manager.

By memorandum **written communication** submitted to the city council, the city manager shall designate a qualified city administrative officer to exercise the powers and perform the duties of city manager during the city manager's temporary absence or disability. The council may revoke such designation at any time and appoint another administrative officer of the city to serve until the city manager returns.

Q13 Initiative and referendum.

Sec. 3.13. - Initiative and referendum.

(b) *Commencement of proceedings.* Any ~~five~~ **three** qualified voters may commence initiative referendum proceedings by filing with the city clerk or other official designated by the council an affidavit stating they will constitute the petitioners' committee and be responsible for circulating the petition and filing it in proper form, stating their names and addresses and specifying the address to which all notices to the committee are to be sent, and setting out in full the proposed initiative ordinance or citing the ordinance sought to be reconsidered. Promptly after the affidavit of the petitioners' committee is filed, the clerk or other official designated by the council may, at the committee's request, issue the appropriate petition blanks to the petitioners' committee at the committee's expense.