Charter Review Commission Community Survey 2019
Survey Open March 1 – 25, 2019
189 Responses Submitted • 47 Comments Submitted

Question 1

Only City of Chula Vista Residents are invited to take this survey. Please indicate your ZIP code

![ZIP Code Distribution Graph]

Total Submissions: 189

Question 2

The current system allows the Mayor, City Council Members, and City Attorney to serve two consecutive (back-to-back) four-year terms.

Would you like to continue with the current system, without changes?

![Survey Responses Graph]

Total Submissions: 189
Question 3

Would you be in favor of increasing the number of terms the Mayor and City Council members can serve from two consecutive (back-to-back) four-year terms to three consecutive (back-to-back) four-year terms?

- Yes (18): 9.52%
- No (193): 80.34%
- Not Sure (6): 4.32%

Total Submissions: 189

Question 4

If the Mayor and City Council members can serve three consecutive (back-to-back) four-year terms, would you be in favor of allowing the same person to run for Mayor or City Council again after a “sit-out” period?

- Yes (49): 25.97%
- No (126): 68.87%
- Not Sure (14): 7.41%

Total Submissions: 189
Question 5

If yes, how long should the sit-out period be before that person is allowed to run again for Mayor or City Council?

Question 6

Would you be in favor of increasing the number of terms the City Attorney can serve from the current two consecutive (back-to-back) four-year terms to three consecutive (back-to-back) four-year terms?
Question 7

If the City Attorney can serve three consecutive (back-to-back) four-year terms, would you be in favor of the same person running for City Attorney again after a “sit-out” period?

Total Submissions: 188

- Yes (59) 31.36%
- No (113) 60.81%
- Not Sure (16) 8.83%

Question 8

If yes, how long should the “sit-out” period be before that person is allowed to run again for City Attorney?

Total Submissions: 189

- After 1 year (21) 11.11%
- After 2 years (25) 13.33%
- After 4 years (22) 11.60%
- After 8 years (3) 1.61%
- Never Again (90) 47.02%
- Not Sure (25) 13.68%
Question 9

As a result of the Charter amendment in 2008, the City Attorney is now elected. There are 482 cities in the State of California; eleven of those have elected City Attorneys. Are you in favor of the City Attorney returning to being appointed by the Mayor and City Council, rather than being elected?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not Sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Submissions: 189

Question 10

The City Attorney is required to be a resident of the State of California but is not required to be a resident of the City (Charter Section 503). Of the eleven cities in California that have elected City Attorneys, all but Chula Vista require the City Attorney to be a resident of the City.

If the City Attorney stays as an elected position, are you in favor of requiring the City Attorney to be a resident of the City?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not Sure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>155</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Submissions: 189
Question 11

Would you be in favor of changing the Charter to add a process for suspending elected City officials from their duties, without pay, when they are charged with a felony in a court of law, until their case is resolved?

- Yes: 71.54% (139)
- No: 18.4% (31)
- Not Sure: 19.01% (31)

Total Submissions: 189

Question 12

The CRC is considering recommending to the City Council that the Charter be amended to allow only vote-by-mail balloting for special elections for the Mayor, City Council members, and City Attorney. This would apply only to elections that are held on a date other than a regularly-scheduled election, and the City Council would be able to decide which method to use in each election. Would you be in favor of this amendment?

- Yes: 62.91% (100)
- No: 34.92% (60)
- Not Sure: 12.17% (20)

Total Submissions: 189
Question 13

Do you believe the current formula for determining the Mayor’s salary should change?

- Yes (92): 43.22%
- No (94): 44.4%
- Not Sure (22): 11.6%

Total Submissions: 189

Question 14

Do you believe the Mayor should earn an amount that is higher, lower, or the same as the Mayor’s current salary?

- Higher (20): 11.55%
- Lower (10): 34.8%
- Same (103): 54.6%

Total Submissions: 189
Question 15

Do you believe the current formula for determining a Councilmember’s salary should change?

- Yes (87) 46.29%
- No (65) 46.21%
- Not Sure (15) 0.51%

Total Submissions: 188

Question 16

Do you believe a Councilmember should earn an amount that is higher, lower, or the same as a Councilmember’s current salary?

- Higher (31) 16.4%
- Lower (61) 32.38%
- Same (87) 51.52%

Total Submissions: 189
1. keep up the good work
2. City of Chula Vista needs to focus on the potholes in the streets, the street lights that are not synced and that’s why you have everybody running red lights, the city parks. The city Council member should not be worrying how much their Making until this is addressed
3. Council members should be paid a part time salary based on the median hourly wage of San Diego County
4. Median part time salary is 27,000
5. I put unsure on Item 11 because if a councilmember is suspended, is there a mechanism for appointing an interim councilmember? Awaiting resolution of a felony charge could take years and I would not like to see a vacant seat for that long.
6. Can’t believe that you are attempting to extend the terms rather than closing the term limit loophole.
7. #12. Should be by mail. Period!
8. Given that the city is near bankrupt, mayor and council members salaries must be set to realistic levels that reflect the complexity level of the city. The city currently runs like a small town with small town mentality (wild west, I’d say) and such poor management should be reflected in the pay scale. How can it be justified that the salaries meet or exceed that of San Diego.
9. We need transparency in how we provide pay and benefits to the Mayor, City Council and City Attorney. We need ALL benefits published so we know the total cost to the city (to citizens). We also need a CVPD station on the east side of 805.
10. I taught school, here in Chula Vista for 35 years for considerably less....about 1/2 ...what a part-time Councilmembers is paid. I don’t think they deserve that inflated salary. They also get other compensation that is unwarranted. They have created a SWAMP right here in Chula Vista. Shame on the three that have made "public service" nothing more than a place at the public trough for their greed to be apparent.
11. Service to the public should be reward enough. Part time city councilmembers
12. make many more commercial against graffiti!
13. Term limits. Less time in govt not more. And hell no to changing election dates or procedures
14. No New Taxes
15. more police presence in our neighborhood,parks and schools
16. I believe that the City Manager should be required to live in the City of Chula Vista. Please survey other Cities. It doesn’t make any sense to require this of the City Attorney and not require this of the City Manager. In my opinion, the City Manager has greater responsibilities such as managing the development, infrastructure, finances, and public safety for a City with over 250,000 residents.
17. This feels like an attempt for the current elected officials to keep their jobs longer.
18. Of council members want more pay, then they should work more hours.
19. Mayor’s should only be allowed one term.
20. Transparency’s require ID for voting..provide proof to vote in our district
21. 25% of Mayor’s Income for Council members part time position
22. Raises, check code enforcement lack of performance
23. The most important thing we can do as a city to save taxpayer money is amend the charter and lower both the mayor and city council salaries. They are currently some of the highest paid in our state and for a city that has to raise taxes to pay police and firefighters that is completely unacceptable.
24. The mayor and city council are paid too much.
25. $55,000 is too high for a part-time municipal political position. It should be lower. In many places around the country, people volunteer for council member posts after being elected because they care about their community. Also, it stands to reason that they have other gainful employment if the position is only part-time.
26. I believe the Mayor and City Council members are public servants and should receive salaries derived from percentages of teacher or policemen salaries.
27. Park Ranger Supervisor lives in Temecula. The only thing he has proved is nepotism and a unfair way of judging Chula Vista Park Patrons, absolutely disgusting!
28. attract better people by paying competitive salaries
29. As the wife of a former republican candidate (non-partisan race-ha!) I doubt my recommendations will be taken seriously. However, I still believe in my 1st amendment rights, so here we go: 1. This surgery is deceiving in many ways. You indicate base salary, tell them the truth- full disclosure of salary+benefits. 2. During an election, do not allow mayor, council members, union officers, other influential individuals or entities to endorse a candidate. It’s insulting to the people to assume that they cannot think for themselves. Demand and enforce that all candidates and their supporters follow ALL laws. Do not ignore, turn a blind eye when violating yard sign laws, etc. - even, or especially public servants- our “role models” to our children? What are we suppose to tell them when fire personnel and police personnel blatantly break the law but are not corrected and held accountable? 3. False statements about a candidate’s career should not be allowed. Don’t tell the public that the candidate worked for ICE and separated families at the border when that candidate never even worked for ICE. 4. Threats to local businesses/ small business owner’s livelihood should be punishable by law. Do not threaten to stop patronizing a family’s business unless they take opponent’s sign down.
30. Pot holes and parking for residence on 4th Ave between Est. and Dst.
31. Because we have a City Manager, it seems that the Mayor is more of a figurehead. There should be a reasonable salary for Mayor given this duo roles. Also, these roles are clearly defined and probably aren’t understood by most. Additionally, I’m very disappointed that this survey wasn’t sent to me by email. It is 2019 and could have been easily done as I get some other emails periodically. This makes me believe that it is the intent of the CRC to obtain results that are generally small and may be statistically insignificant to make these type of decisions
32. Why are counsel members paid so much for part time work?
33. Mayor Salas is a detriment to Chula Vista and we cannot afford 4 more years.
34. If they save the city money, maybe I will let them keep a small percentage, as a bonus for that year.
35. The council member should earn a little bit more but less than 75,000
36. Extended terms can lead to potential corruption and cronesim. Being able to run again after your mandatory term has ended can ead to the same.
37. Mayor’s performance should be reviewed and pay should be based on that. The current mayor is way overpaid.
38. I think the mayor should make 75% of a judges salary, and that the council should then be able to receive a slight bump based off that increase.
39. Currently, the Mayor of CV is the 5th highest paid mayor in the state this is outrageous. I would like to see citizens have a more active role in overall employee compensation, especially firefighters. The fact that positions that are classified as management in that department receives overtime upsetting, considering most management positions in the city are exempt and do not receive overtime pay. Also, the fact that they can receive overtime and hourly staff in other departments, like the library, are exempt from receiving overtime even when they work
more than 8 hours in a workday. Finally, residents must have more input and authority on employee compensation and pensions since ultimately we are the ones who pay the bill. The fact that the city is currently facing over $300 million dollars in unfunded pension liabilities is an indictment against the City Council and City Management that they have failed to fulfill their fiduciary duties to the residents of Chula Vista. This has been an issue that the elected officials and city management have known about for over a decade and no serious action has been taken to solve this serious systematic problem. If no action is taken to find a real solution to this crisis, I predict the city will be bankrupt within 5-10 years. If this is the case, city officials and senior management should be held legally responsible and face possible criminal prosecution, especially those whose professional certification and degrees, like CPA’s, assign a fiduciary responsibility to those they serve, in this case, the residents of Chula Vista.

40. Many of the questions you’re asking in this survey are underpinned by a more basic question: should Government and its control be run by professional politicians, or regular people? I’m not sure we’ve come to an agreement on that question since it hasn’t been explicitly asked, but I think we should consider that question FIRST and let the answer to that question guide us in deciding what to do next.

41. These are great questions. I really hope that you consider extending the terms for the Mayor and Councilmembers. If we have good momentum going with existing leadership, there’s no reason to cut it off at 8 years. Also, their salaries are too low. This is San Diego and extremely expensive to live here. If we want them fully focused on our city and our needs and not looking for a part-time job or extra activities to pay the bills and support their families, we need to pay them more. There are people who work at the City as staff who make significantly more than them for likely less work effort.

42. The size of the city should reflect the salaries
43. Continue with community outreach and audit/oversight citizen committees.
44. I am not sure if the Charter covers City Codes, but if it does, I would like to see Codes that require people to park only in their driveways or on the street. Parking in front yards and paving over front yards is turning us into a ghetto. Also, it would be great if trash cans were required to be placed out of front yards and at least back behind the front wall of the home. I grew up here and really sad to see it perpetually go downhill. Thank you!

45. the City Attorney should be appointed to his/her position.
46. Stop coddling "the 'homeless''" and illegal aliens!
47. $50K per year is too much for a part-time position.