6-21-24

#### ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

An ordinance ordering a special election to be held in the city of Dallas on November 4, 2024, on the question of adopting amendments to the Charter of the City of Dallas; adding a preamble to the city charter that declares the city to be an equitable democracy, highlights its diversity and resiliency, champions equity, community empowerment, and accessibility, recognizes indigenous groups who inhabited its land, acknowledges its history, and pledges to build a just and equitable city for all; increasing the annual salary of councilmembers to \$125,000; increasing the annual salary of the mayor to \$140,000; extending city council terms from two-year terms to four-year terms; clarifying that the length of terms for municipal judges and associate municipal judges are equal to the length of terms for members of the city council; clarifying the appointment process for associate municipal judges; allowing the mayor pro tem to call a council meeting to order once a quorum is present if the mayor is not in the designated meeting location, the deputy mayor pro tem to call a council meeting to order if both the mayor and mayor pro tem are not in the designated meeting location, and the city secretary to call the meeting to order if all three are not in the designated meeting location; require the mayor to assign standing city council committees within 60 days after the date of inauguration, and if the mayor fails to fulfill this obligation within 60 days, councilmembers will continue to serve on their previous standing committees, with a newlyelected councilmember serving in the place of the previous councilmember of the same district until the mayor appoints, removes, or reassigns members to and from the various standing city council committees; requiring the city council to confirm the mayor's appointments to standing city council committees; providing the city secretary with employees; eliminating the requirement that members of boards and commissions created by the city charter be registered to vote, qualified Ordinance Ordering Charter Election 2024 - Page 1

voters, or qualified taxpaying citizens; adding eligibility criteria for serving on the redistricting commission; extending the deadline petitioners must meet to collect the required signatures on a petition from 60 days to 120 days; reducing the number of signatures required on a petition in support of holding a referendum from 10 percent of the qualified voters of the City of Dallas to five percent; allowing city council's appointments to boards and commissions to be replaced by city council before the completion of the appointee's term; striking charter provisions referencing required newspaper notifications; amending city council candidacy requirements to match the requirements in the Texas Election Code; amend personnel appeal deadline to be consistent with Chapter 34 of the Dallas City Code; delete the requirement that the city secretary verify the truth in a city council candidates filed affidavit of residency; clarifying that the mayor and city council receive benefits as part of their compensation in addition to their annual salary; requiring that candidates for city council not be in arrears only in the payment of liabilities due the city that are related to holding office; allowing the city to accrue liens on a monthly basis; clarifying that reorganizations and reductions in force will be treated in the same manner with respect to compensation and reassignment; clarifying that a civilian probationary period does not satisfy the requirement for sworn service probationary periods; removing voter registration requirement for those who make an application to the city secretary and file an intention to circulate a petition; clarifying that it is the duty of the human resources department to recommend rules governing the evaluation of conduct and performance of city employees; allowing an alternate deadline when the date for performance of an act falls on a weekend or holiday; making various technical amendments to conform to state law, conform to the city code, match actual practice, correct terms, and clarify language; prescribing the form and wording of the ballot propositions; designating polling places; providing that only resident qualified voters are entitled to vote; providing for the use of an electronic voting system for early voting by personal appearance and a computerized

voting system for voting on election day and for early voting by mail; providing for early voting locations; providing for an early voting ballot board to process early voting; providing for notice of the special election; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That a special election is ordered to be held in the city of Dallas on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the city several propositions on whether the Charter of the City of Dallas should be amended. The proposed amendments will only affect the sections listed below and will read as set forth below (the new portions being underlined, and the repealed portions being crossed through):

# "<u>PREAMBLE</u>

We, the residents of the City of Dallas, declare that our city is an equitable democracy and that our diversity and differences are our strength. We acknowledge the history of our city and respect the cultures, languages, and perspectives of all who call Dallas home. We celebrate all those who have advocated for the advancement of our city in any capacity and celebrate their courage and resiliency.

We strive to be a city where the talents and contributions of every resident of Dallas are recognized and embraced. Further, we strive to champion equity, community empowerment, and accessibility for every resident of Dallas. We aspire to deliver a service-first governance model that reflects the values in which our city believes and works to make a reality for each resident.

We strive for a city in which residents have the opportunity to thrive and succeed with:

- (1) <u>a safe, healthy, clean, and sustainable living environment;</u>
- (2) <u>a resilient and connected neighborhood supported by reliable and accessible</u> infrastructure that is surrounded by a robust local economy;
- (3) an adaptive, affordable, and easily accessible transportation system that supports all neighborhoods within the City of Dallas;
- (4) vibrant and welcoming public spaces throughout the City of Dallas where all residents feel a sense of belonging;
- (5) resources necessary to proposer economically and build wealth;

- (6) <u>safe and affordable housing for generations to come;</u>
- (7) <u>quality and trauma-informed child and youth educators, including early childhood</u> <u>and pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade education;</u>
- (8) compassionate, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed health and mental health care; and
- (9) <u>opportunities to participate in government decision-making, while having access to a communicative and transparent municipal government.</u>

We recognize that the City of Dallas lies on the traditional territory formerly occupied by multiple indigenous groups, including the Caddo, Wichita, nomadic groups such as the Comanche and Kiowa, and ancestral tribes including the Arkikosa, Atakapa, Karankawa, and Tawakoni, and many others. We recognize these indigenous groups and original inhabitants and stewards of this land. The City of Dallas endeavors to honor their stewardship of the land by protecting the environment and all living things within it.

We acknowledge the grave injustices and atrocities that form part of our country's history, and our city's history, including the forced labor of enslaved Africans, colonialism that displaced indigenous peoples from their lands, the devaluing and underpaying of immigrant workers, and the discrimination, racial segregation, mass incarceration, and other forms of violence and systemic inequity that continue to be experienced by marginalized groups. Further, we acknowledge the role the City of Dallas uniquely played as a Southern city in the production of cotton and the resulting immense economic profit the City acquired because of it. We recognize these historical truths and their subsequent results which are embedded into our society as systemic inequities; these systemic inequities are found today within so many of our country's structures and institutions. We are ever mindful that intentional action is required to undo and prevent the wrongs of the past from worsening or continuing. It is imperative that we work collaboratively to enact institutions, laws, and procedures to promote justice and equity for all residents of Dallas.

The collective values set out in this preamble will guide the operation of the City of Dallas and shape the way the City carries out the duties, obligations, and authorities trusted upon it by residents and granted to it by the charter.

We, the people of Dallas, are united in our determination to build a just and equitable city for all. We recognize the efforts of those residents of Dallas, past and present, who fought for racial equity, social justice, accessibility, voting rights, and inclusivity and honor their contributions to make our city the place it is today. We extend our gratitude to the residents who have advocated, fought, struggled, and dreamed of a better life and a better city. Together, we work to make meaningful changes that honor their efforts as we move toward a better tomorrow for future generations.

# CHAPTER III. CITY COUNCIL

# SEC. 1. COMPOSITION OF CITY COUNCIL.

Except as otherwise provided by this Charter, all powers conferred on the city shall be exercised by a city council to be composed of 15 members, nominated and elected in the manner

hereinafter provided unless otherwise provided by law. One member of the city council, Place 15, shall be elected by the qualified voters of the entire city and 14 members by the qualified voters residing in a particular district, Places 1 through 14 respectively, as provided in Chapter IV of this Charter. Members of council, Places 1 through 14, shall each be elected for a term of two years and member of council, Place 15, shall be elected for a term of four years. The city council members so elected shall take office on the first Monday following the 30th calendar day after the final canvass of the general election, and they shall serve until their respective successors have been elected and qualified. *[Note: This version of Section 1 is effective until the swearing in of city councilmembers in June 2027.]* 

# SEC. 1. COMPOSITION OF CITY COUNCIL.

Except as otherwise provided by this Charter, all powers conferred on the city shall be exercised by a city council to be composed of 15 members, nominated and elected in the manner hereinafter provided unless otherwise provided by law. One member of the city council, Place 15, shall be elected by the qualified voters of the entire city and 14 members by the qualified voters residing in a particular district, Places 1 through 14 respectively, as provided in Chapter IV of this Charter. Members of council, Places 1 through 15, shall each be elected for a term of four years. The city council members so elected shall take office on the first Monday following the 30th calendar day after the final canvass of the general election, and they shall serve until their respective successors have been elected and qualified. [Note: This version of Section 1 is effective upon until the swearing in of city councilmembers in June 2027.]

# SEC. 3. COUNCIL QUALIFICATIONS.

Each member of the city council shall, in addition to the other qualifications prescribed by law, be at the date of election a qualified voter of the city, and shall not be in arrears in the payment of [any taxes or other] liabilities due the city related to holding office.

## SEC. 3A. LIMITATION OF TERMS.

(a) A person who has served as a member of the city council other than Place 15 for four consecutive two-year terms shall not again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, any place on the city council except Place 15 until at least one term has elapsed.

(b) A person who has served two consecutive terms as a member of the city council, Place 15, shall not again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, Place 15 on the city council until at least one term for Place 15 has elapsed.

(c) A "term" as used in Subsection (a) shall include any period of service during a city council term when that period is in excess of one year, including a term from which the member resigned.

(d) For the purpose of limiting terms under Subsection (b), a term includes a period of time less than four years when the period of service by a mayor during a term is in excess of 731 days. [Note: This version of Section 3A is effective until the swearing in of city councilmembers in June 2027.]

# SEC. 3A. LIMITATION OF TERMS.

(a) A person who has served as a member of the city council in Places 3 and 10 consecutively for two two-year terms and one four-year term, shall not again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, any place on the city council except Place 15 until at least one term has elapsed.

(b) A person who has served as a member of the city council in Places 2, 11, 13, and 14 consecutively for three two-year terms and one four-year term, shall not again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, any place on the city council except Place 15 until at least one term has elapsed.

(c) A person who has served as a member of the city council in Places 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, and 12 consecutively for four two-year terms, shall not again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, any place on the city council except Place 15 until at least one term has elapsed.

(d) A person who has served as a member of the city council in Places 6 and 8 consecutively for one two-year term and two four-year terms, shall not again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, any place on the city council except Place 15 until at least one term has elapsed.

(e) <u>A person who has served two consecutive terms as a member of the city council,</u> <u>Place 15, shall not again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, Place 15 on the city</u> <u>council until at least one term for Place 15 has elapsed.</u>

(f) <u>A "term" as used in Subsections (a) through (d) shall include any period of service</u> during a city council term when that period is in excess of one year, including a term from which the member resigned.

(g) For the purpose of limiting terms under Subsection (e), a term includes a period of time less than four years when the period of service by a mayor during a term is in excess of 731 days. [Note: This version of Section 3A is effective upon the swearing in of city councilmembers in June 2027 and until the swearing in of city councilmembers in June 2035.]

## SEC. 3A. LIMITATION OF TERMS.

(a) <u>A person who has served as a member of the city council other than Place 15 for</u> two consecutive four-year terms shall not again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, any place on the city council except Place 15 until at least one term has elapsed.

(b) A person who has served two consecutive terms as a member of the city council. Place 15, shall not again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, Place 15 on the city council until at least one term for Place 15 has elapsed.

(c) <u>A "term" as used in Subsection (a) shall include any period of service during a city</u> council term when that period is in excess of one year, including a term from which the member resigned. (d) For the purpose of limiting terms under Subsection (b), a term includes a period of time less than four years when the period of service by a mayor during a term is in excess of 731 days. [Note: This version of Section 3A is effective upon until the swearing in of city councilmembers in June 2035.]

# SEC. 4. COMPENSATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

(a) [Effective October 1, 2001, e]Each member of the city council, other than the mayor, shall receive <u>a salary in</u> [as compensation for services] the sum of (0,000) [(37,500)] for each year (prorated for partial years) that the member serves on the city council. The mayor shall receive <u>a salary in</u> [as compensation for services] the sum of (80,000) [(60,000)] for each year (prorated for partial years) served as mayor on the city council. [Note: This version of subsection (a) is effective until the swearing in of city council members in June 2025 [(2015)].]

(a) Effective upon the swearing in of city council members in June 2025 [2015], each member of the city council, other than the mayor, shall receive <u>a salary in</u> [as compensation for services] the sum of \$125,000 [\$60,000] for the following [each] year (prorated for <u>a</u> partial year[s]) that the member serves on the city council. The mayor shall receive <u>a salary in</u> [as compensation for services] the sum of \$140,000 [\$60,000] for the following [each] year (prorated for <u>a</u> partial year[s]) served as mayor on the city council. The annual salary for the mayor and members of the city council shall thereafter be subject to a yearly adjustment equal to the year-over-year percentage increase in the local consumer price index. [Note: This version of Subsection (a) is effective upon the swearing in of city council members in June 2025 [2015 and until the swearing in as mayor of an individual who did not hold the office of mayor on November 4, 2014].]

[(a) Effective upon the swearing in of city council members in June 2015, each member of the city council, other than the mayor, shall receive as compensation for services the sum of \$60,000 for each year (prorated for partial years) that the member serves on the city council. Effective upon the swearing in as mayor of an individual who did not hold the office of mayor on November 4, 2014, the mayor shall receive as compensation for services the sum of \$80,000 for each year (prorated for partial years) served as mayor on the city council. [Note: This version of Subsection (a) is effective upon the swearing in as mayor of an individual who did not hold the office of hold the office of mayor of an individual who did not hold the office of services the sum of \$80,000 for each year (prorated for partial years) served as mayor on the city council. [Note: This version of Subsection (a) is effective upon the swearing in as mayor of an individual who did not hold the office of mayor on November 4, 2014.]

(b) For purposes of this section, a "year" means a 12-consecutive-month period.

(c) The <u>salary</u> [compensation] provided for in Subsection (a) will be paid on a biweekly basis.

(d) In addition to receiving the <u>salary</u> [compensation] provided for in Subsection (a), all necessary expenses incurred by members of the city council in the performance of their duties will be paid by the city, when authorized by the city council. <u>The mayor and each member of the city council may also receive benefits for elected officials as permitted by state and federal law and adopted by city council through resolution or ordinance.</u>

(e) If any city council member, including the mayor, misses more than 10 percent of the total number of regular meetings held by the city council during any <u>salary</u> [compensation] year, then the city council member's <u>salary</u> [compensation] provided for under Subsection (a) for that year will be reduced proportionately by the percentage of meetings missed. For purposes of this subsection, regular meetings include both those held by the full city council and those held by the standing city council committees on which a member serves. Meetings missed by a city council member while he or she is on the official business of the city council and at the direction of the city council will not be counted towards the percentage of missed meetings for which <u>salary</u> [compensation] reduction is required under this subsection, but will be counted as though the member had attended the meetings that are missed while so engaged in city business.

# SEC. 8. OPEN MEETINGS; SPEAKERS.

(b) The city council shall adopt rules of procedure that provide reasonable opportunity for <u>people</u> [citizens] to be heard by the city council.

# SEC. 11. ELECTION AND DUTIES OF THE MAYOR PRO TEM AND DEPUTY MAYOR PRO TEM.

# (a) Except as provided in Subsection (b):

(1) t[T] be city council shall elect one of its members as mayor pro tem, who shall perform a specific duty of the mayor if the mayor is unable to discharge that specific duty, and who shall, during that time, be vested with all the powers belonging to the mayor to perform that specific duty; and[-]

(2) t[T] he council shall also elect one of its members as deputy mayor pro tem to act if both the mayor and the mayor pro tem are unable to discharge a specific duty and to exercise the powers of the mayor to perform that specific duty.

(b) Once a quorum of the city council is present at a city council meeting at or after the posted time of the meeting, the mayor pro tem may call the meeting to order if the mayor is not in the designated meeting location, the deputy mayor pro tem may call the meeting to order if both the mayor and mayor pro tem are not in the designated meeting location, and the city secretary may call the meeting to order if the mayor, mayor pro tem, and deputy mayor pro tem are not in the designated meeting location. If the city secretary calls a city council meeting to order, the city council shall elect a councilmember to act as presiding officer of the meeting until the mayor, mayor pro tem, or deputy mayor pro tem arrives.

# SEC. 13. POLICY-MAKING PROCEDURES AND OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES.

(a) In the performance of the powers of government, it is the duty of the mayor and the city council to make suitable provision for the assurance of adequate and appropriate prior review and consideration of official actions to be taken by the city council, and to assure that a high performance level of services to the <u>residents</u> [eitizens] is maintained, responsiveness to the people is provided, and accountability in municipal government is assured. To this end, the city council shall:

(1) adopt rules of procedure governing the conduct of city council meetings and the introduction, consideration, and method of review of actions to be considered by the city council, consistent with the city manager's authority to present directly to the entire city council the city manager's operational agenda;

(2) create a standing finance committee of the city council charged with the responsibility for financial and audit oversight of the operations of city government;

(3) establish such additional standing committees and their duties as the city council determines is appropriate; and

(4) establish the process by which the committees shall conduct their business and review matters for city council consideration, consistent with the city manager's authority to present directly to the entire city council the city manager's operational agenda.

(b) The mayor shall appoint the <u>chair, vice chair, and all</u> members [and chairs] of <u>each</u> [all] city council committee[s], and it shall be the duty of each member of the city council to serve and to participate on each committee to which the member is appointed. <u>Appointments to standing</u> <u>committees are subject to confirmation by the city council.</u> The mayor shall have the power to remove and reassign members to and from the various city council committees. <u>For standing</u> <u>committees, removals and reassignments must be confirmed by the city council.</u> The mayor shall assign councilmembers to standing city council committees within 60 days after the date of inauguration. If the mayor fails to assign councilmembers to standing city council committees during that time, reelected councilmembers shall continue to serve on their previous standing committees, newly-elected councilmembers shall serve in the places on standing committees occupied by the previous councilmember of the same district, and each standing committee shall elect its own chair from among the members of the standing committee until the mayor appoints, removes, or reassigns members to and from the various council committees and a chair is appointed.

## SEC. 19. INDEPENDENT AUDIT.

The city council shall cause the annual financial statements and related records and accounts of the city to be audited annually by a firm registered with the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy as a firm practicing public accountancy. The auditor shall be selected by the city council[,] and shall be responsible to the council. The report of such auditor and the financial statements and related audit opinion for the fiscal year shall be printed and a copy shall be furnished to each city council member and the city manager, and a copy shall be kept available in the office of the city secretary for inspection by any <u>person</u> [eitizen] upon request. [A summary of the annual financial statements and the audit report shall also be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the city.] The original report of the auditor or auditors shall be kept among the permanent records of the city.

# CHAPTER IIIA. CITY SECRETARY

# SEC. 2. ASSISTANTS AND EMPLOYEES

The city council shall provide the city secretary with such assistants <u>and employees</u> as it may deem necessary, and they shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the council. Any such assistant <u>or employee</u> may be discharged at any time by the city secretary. All powers and duties imposed on the city secretary may be exercised and performed by any assistant <u>or employee</u> under the city secretary's direction.

## CHAPTER IV. ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUMS

## SEC. 3. GENERAL ELECTION.

No primary election shall be held for the selection of nominees to the city council unless specifically required by state law. General elections for the purpose of electing members of the city council shall be held on the first authorized election date after March 1 <u>every fourth</u> [of each odd numbered] year. If state law does not restrict election dates, the city council shall by ordinance establish an election date in May <u>every fourth</u> [of odd numbered] year[s]. The members elected shall compose the city council of the City of Dallas and shall serve for the terms provided in Chapter III of this Charter, or until their respective successors shall have been elected, qualified, and taken office.

# SEC. 5. DISTRICTS AND REDISTRICTING.

# (b) Redistricting commission.

(2) Persons appointed to the redistricting commission must [be registered to vote and] meet the qualifications for service on a city commission. [A member of the city council is not eligible for appointment to the redistricting commission.] A member of the redistricting commission is not eligible to be a candidate for a place on the city council in the next succeeding general election of the city, and may not be appointed or elected to the city council or to any other official board or commission of the city for a period of one year after service on the redistricting commission. The following persons are not eligible to serve on the redistricting commission:

(A) <u>a current member of the city council or the spouse of a current</u> member of the city council or any family member within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity;

(B) <u>a person or the spouse of a person who has been appointed to or</u> <u>elected to any elective federal, state, county, or city office during the three years before the</u> <u>appointment date;</u>

(C) the campaign manager, treasurer, or staff member of any candidate for federal, state, county, or city elected office during the five years before the appointment date;

(D) <u>a registered lobbyist or spouse of a lobbyist registered with the city,</u> county, state, or federal government;

(E) <u>a person or spouse of a person who works for the city or who works</u> with or for any current member of the city council; (F) a person or spouse of a person who has a contractual relationship with the city, has had a contractual relationship with the city within three years before the date of appointment, has a contractual relationship with any current member of the city council or the spouse of a current city council member; or has had a contractual relationship with any current member of the city council or the spouse of a current city council member within three years before the date of appointment (this paragraph does not apply to non-negotiated, form contracts for general city services or benefits if the city services or benefits are made available to the person or spouse on the same terms that they are made available to the general public); or

(G) <u>a person who, in accordance with this charter, city ordinances, or</u> written city policy, is ineligible for appointment to a city board or commission.

# SEC. 6. CANDIDATE'S RESIDENCE.

(a) No person shall be eligible as a candidate for member of council, Place 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, or 14, unless the person is at the time a bona fide resident of District 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, or 14, respectively, <u>has resided continuously in Texas for 12</u> <u>months</u>, and has resided within the district in which the person is a candidate for a period of at least six months prior to the date of the <u>regular filing deadline for a candidate</u>'s application for a <u>place on the ballot</u> [election]. Any person elected to a place representing a district must continuously reside in the district during that person's term of office. A candidate for member of council, Place 15, may be a resident of any portion of the city, must have resided <u>continuously</u> in the city for a period of at least six months <u>and continuously in Texas for 12 months</u> prior to the date of the <u>regular filing deadline for a place on the ballot</u> [election], and must continuously reside within the city during the person's term of office.

(b) If the district in which a person will have resided for at least six months prior to the date of an election will change because of the relocation of a district boundary, the person is eligible to become a candidate:

(1) for the new district assigned to the person's residence; or

(2) for the previous district of the person's residence if the person moves to a residence within the revised boundaries of that district prior to becoming a candidate for election.

(c) No person may appear on the official ballot as a candidate for a place on the city council unless[:

(1)] that person files with the city secretary a signed, sworn, and dated affidavit certifying compliance with the residency requirements of this section, except that a sworn application for a place on the ballot filed with the city secretary in accordance with the Texas Election Code will satisfy the requirements of this paragraph[; and

(2) the city secretary is reasonably able to verify the truth of the affidavit of residency].

# [SEC. 13. DISCLOSURE OF CANDIDATE CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) The city secretary shall cause to be published, in a newspaper of general circulation or on the city's website, on at least two separate dates (20 and two days, respectively) prior to each election or recall election, a notice disclosing the names and contribution amounts of individuals and political committees making contributions to the campaigns and/or election committees of the candidates for mayor and city council that have been reported to the city secretary prior to the dates of publication.

(b) The city secretary shall also cause to be published in a newspaper of general circulation or on the city's website, a notice disclosing the names and contribution amounts of individuals and political committees making contributions to the campaigns and/or election committees of the candidates for mayor and city council reported to the city secretary following any election or recall election.

(c) The city council shall provide sufficient resources to the city secretary to implement the mandate of this section.]

# **CHAPTER VIII. MUNICPAL COURTS**

# SEC. 4. MUNICIPAL JUDGES; APPOINTMENT.

Each of the municipal courts of the City of Dallas shall be presided over by a judge or judges, each of whom shall be designated as municipal judge. Each judge shall be a practicing attorney of good standing. Biennially in May of each even-numbered year, the municipal judges shall be appointed by the council, which appointment shall designate the administrative judge. Each municipal judge shall hold office for a term that is equal to the length of terms for members of the city council, Places 1 through 14, [two years] from the date of appointment or until a successor is appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed by the council. In the event of any vacancy in the office of municipal judge by death, resignation, or otherwise, the city council shall appoint a qualified attorney to fill the unexpired term as municipal judge. The administrative judge designated by the city council shall be the administrative head of the judiciary of the city. As such, the administrative judge shall promulgate work rules concerning the administration of the court dockets, the times and places for holding court, equalizing of the case assignments, the vacation schedules, and other administrative details concerned with the judicial performance of the municipal courts, which rules shall be submitted to the city manager and city attorney for comment prior to adoption by the city council. Once adopted, the administrative judge shall be responsible to see that the rules are adhered to by all courts. The administrative judge shall make such reports as may be required by the city council.

# SEC. 6. ASSOCIATE MUNICIPAL JUDGES.

In May of each fourth year, associate municipal judges shall be appointed by city council. Associate municipal judges will receive their assignment from the administrative judge or the administrative judge's designee. Each associate municipal judge shall be a practicing attorney of good standing. Each associate municipal judge must be a resident of the City of Dallas within four months of appointment. Each associate municipal judge shall hold office for a term that is equal to the length of terms for members of the city council, Places 1 through 14, from the date of appointment or until a successor is appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed by the council. In the event of any vacancy in the office of associate municipal judge by death, resignation, or otherwise, the city council may appoint a qualified attorney to fill the unexpired term as an associate municipal judge. The associate municipal judge is considered a part-time judge and is called upon as needed. [If, for any cause, any of the municipal judges shall temporarily fail to act, then and in such case the council is hereby authorized to appoint some qualified attorney who shall act in the place and stead of such municipal judge, and who shall have powers and discharge all the duties of said office and shall receive the compensation therefor accruing while so acting. Such temporary judges shall be known as associate municipal judges. Associate municipal judges, during their appointments, shall not represent clients on matters pending in the municipal courts. The appointment of an associate municipal judge shall be by resolution of the city council, filed in the office of the city secretary. In the event of civil emergency, such appointment may be made by the mayor; provided, however, no compensation shall be paid to such judges so appointed unless confirmed by the city council.]

## **CHAPTER IX. CITY AUDITOR**

#### SEC. 2. ASSISTANTS AND EMPLOYEES.

The council shall provide the city auditor with such assistants <u>and employees</u> as it may deem necessary, and those assistants <u>and employees</u> shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the council. Any such assistant <u>or employee</u> may be discharged at any time by the city auditor. All powers and duties imposed on the city auditor may be exercised and performed by any assistant <u>and employee</u> under the city auditor's direction.

#### CHAPTER XI. THE BUDGET AND FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RELATING THERETO

#### SEC. 1. ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATE.

The fiscal year of the city shall begin on the first day of October of each year and shall end with the 30th day of September next following. By [On] the 15th day of August of each year the city manager shall submit to the council a budget estimate of the revenue of the city and the expense of conducting the affairs thereof for the ensuing fiscal year. This estimate shall be compiled from information obtained from the several departments, divisions and offices of the city on uniform forms furnished by the city manager. It shall be in accordance with uniform accounting procedures with comparisons to the last two fiscal years and an estimate of the probable income for the period covered with the significant underlying assumptions.

#### SEC. 3. ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE.

Upon receipt of the city manager's estimate, the council shall call a public hearing upon the submitted budget to be held before a committee of the council, or before the entire council sitting as a committee of the whole. Following the public hearings, the council shall pass on first reading the appropriation ordinance [and shall cause it to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city with a separate schedule setting forth the items in the city manager's estimate that were omitted or changed by the council, if any. The council shall not pass the appropriation ordinance upon final reading until at least 10 days after its publication]. Upon passage of the appropriation ordinance by the council, it shall become immediately effective, and the funds appropriated therein become available on October 1, the beginning of the next fiscal year. Following the final passage of the appropriation ordinance, the city council shall, by ordinance, levy the taxes for the current year.

### CHAPTER XII. POLICE DEPARTMENT.

#### SEC. 4. DISCIPLINE OF POLICE; HEARING.

The chief of police shall have the right to discipline any of the officers or employees who may be under the chief's jurisdiction and control for violations of city ordinances or federal or state law, or for failure to obey orders given by the proper authority, or the orders, rules, and regulations promulgated by the chief of police. The chief of police may delegate this authority to discipline as he or she deems fit. If any officer or employee is discharged, the chief of police shall forthwith in writing certify the fact, together with the cause for the action, to the city manager. A disciplined officer or employee shall have <u>10</u> [five] days from receipt of notice of a suspension, demotion, or discharge within which to demand a hearing before the city manager, as provided in this Charter, but such demand must be made in writing. If demanded, the city manager shall proceed to inquire into the cause of the discipline and render judgment thereon, which judgment, if the charge is sustained, may be suspension, reduction in rank, discharge, or such other discipline as may seem just and equitable to the city manager under all the facts and circumstances of the particular case. Such judgment is final unless a discharged or demoted officer or employee desires to exercise the right of a public hearing before a trial board or an administrative law judge as provided by this Charter.

#### CHAPTER XIII. FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

#### SEC. 2. DUTIES.

The chief of the fire-rescue department shall:

(2) take all necessary measures to protect the city and the property of its <u>residents</u> [citizens] from destruction by fire or conflagration;

# SEC. 9. DISCIPLINE OF FIREFIGHTERS AND OTHER FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL; HEARING.

The chief of the fire-rescue department shall have the right to discipline any officers or employees who may be under the chief's control and management for violations of city ordinances or federal or state law, or for failure to obey orders given by the proper authority, or the orders, rules, and regulations promulgated by the chief for the department. The chief of the fire-rescue department may delegate this authority to discipline as he or she deems fit. If any officer or employee is discharged, the chief of the fire-rescue department shall forthwith in writing certify the fact, together with the cause for the action, to the city manager. A disciplined officer or employee shall have <u>10</u> [five] days from receipt of notice of a suspension, demotion, or discharge within which to demand a hearing before the city manager, as provided in this Charter, but such demand must be made in writing. If demanded, the city manager shall proceed to inquire into the cause of the discipline and render judgment thereon, which judgment, if the charge is sustained, may be suspension, reduction in rank, discharge, or such other discipline as may seem just and

equitable to the city manager under all the facts and circumstances of the particular case. Such judgment is final unless a discharged or demoted officer or employee desires to exercise the right of a public hearing before a trial board or an administrative law judge as provided by this Charter.

### **CHAPTER XIV. FRANCHISES**

#### SEC. 8. ACQUISITION BY EMINENT DOMAIN.

The city shall have the power through eminent domain proceedings to acquire any public utility operating with or without a franchise and furnishing a public service to the <u>residents</u> [citizens] of Dallas. The procedure to be used in the acquisition of such property shall be that as set forth in Chapter 21 of the Texas Property Code, as amended, and other applicable state law. In valuing the property, the measure of damages shall be the fair market value of the physical properties together with its franchise, if any, taken together as one system. This power shall be in addition to and cumulative of any other powers of acquisition granted to or reserved by the city in a franchise ordinance.

### CHAPTER XV. PLANNING AND ZONING

### SEC. 3. ZONING COMMISSION.

The city council shall appoint 15 <u>residents</u> [qualified voters] of the City of Dallas who shall constitute the zoning commission of the City of Dallas[ $_{7}$ ] and shall be the city plan commission as the same is referred to by state statute for the approval of plats and subdivisions. <u>Except for the qualified voter requirement, t</u>[T]he members shall possess the same qualifications and be subject to the same disqualifications as provided by the Charter for members of the city council, or general laws of the State of Texas. The <u>mayor</u> [<del>city council</del>] shall <u>designate</u> [name] one [of the] member[s] as [to be the] chair, subject to confirmation by the city council [and one to be the vice chair].

#### SEC. 4. DUTIES OF ZONING COMMISSION.

The zoning commission shall:

(3) Act as an advisory body to the city council in relation to any changes in the boundaries of the various original districts and any changes in the zoning ordinances and regulations to be enforced therein. Such recommendation shall be made after [advertisement of and] a public hearing held thereon. [Notice of such public hearing shall be published at least one time in a newspaper of general circulation in the city at least 10 days prior to the date of said hearing, or as otherwise provided by state law or this charter.]

## CHAPTER XVI. CIVIL SERVICE AND PERSONNEL

## SEC. 1. ORGANIZATION OF CIVIL SERVICE.

There is hereby created and established a civil service board to be composed of seven members who shall be <u>residents</u> [qualified taxpaying citizens] of the City of Dallas and a number of adjunct members equal to the number of members on the city council who shall have qualifications established by the city council. Biennially in September of each odd-numbered year,

the city council shall appoint the members and adjunct members to serve for two years and until their successors have been appointed and qualified, and the mayor shall designate one member as chair subject to confirmation by a majority of the city council. The adjunct members shall not have voting privileges on matters to be determined by the civil service board but shall perform such duties as prescribed for them by this Charter. The members and adjunct members of the civil service board shall not hold any other position under the city, county, or state government. The city council may remove any member or adjunct member of the board. Any vacancies on the board must be filled by the city council for the unexpired term.

# SEC. 3. CIVIL SERVICE DIVIDED INTO CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE.

(b) The unclassified service shall include:

(1) the directors of departments, assistant directors of departments, and other managerial personnel as designated by <u>city council</u> [rules of the board];

- (2) the municipal court clerk and the secretary of the civil service board; and
- (3) the labor class, which shall include all ordinary unskilled labor.

# SEC. 6. BOARD TO PROVIDE FOR PROMOTIONS AND REASSIGNMENT IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE.

(a) The board shall provide for promotion to all positions in the classified service on the basis of merit and fitness demonstrated by examination or other appropriate evidences of competition and by records of merit, efficiency, character, conduct, and seniority.

(b) [The board shall also provide for incumbents of ranks or grades that have been eliminated by departmental reorganization:

- (1) to be reassigned to other positions; and
- (2) to receive no reduction in compensation for a period not to exceed two

<del>years.</del>

- (c)] The board may, but is not required to, provide for reassignment in the case of:
  - (1) reduction in force; [<del>or</del>]

(2) removal or reduction for cause under standard civil service hearing and appeal procedures; or

(3) <u>departmental reorganization</u>.

[(d) Subsection (b)(2) does not apply to a reassignment made under Subsection (c).]

## SEC. 7. <u>HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT</u> [<del>BOARD</del>] TO <u>RECOMMEND</u> [ESTABLISH] RULES GOVERNING CONDUCT.

It shall be the duty of the <u>human resources department</u> [board, in the code of rules and regulations approved by the council,] to <u>recommend personnel</u> [establish] rules to be adopted by <u>city council that govern [governing]</u> evaluation of conduct and performance and <u>require [requiring]</u> remedies for nonperformance for positions in the civil service.

## SEC. 10. PROBATIONARY PERIOD.

(a) Appointments or promotions of city officers and employees in the classified and unclassified service shall not be deemed complete until a period of six months shall have elapsed. A probationer may be discharged, suspended or reduced within said period by the city manager, or the head of the department in which said probationer is employed without right of appeal. <u>A probationary period served as a civilian employee will not satisfy the probationary period for a position in the sworn service with the police department or the fire-rescue department.</u>

# SEC. 11. EMPLOYEE ACTIONS AFTER PROBATION PERIOD.

(b) An officer or employee who has been disciplined by the head of any department under the city manager shall have <u>10</u> [five] days from receipt of notice of such action within which to demand, in writing, a hearing before the city manager. At the hearing, the city manager shall inquire into the cause of the disciplinary action and render a decision either affirming the action of the department head, setting aside the action of the department head, or directing the department head to enter a new order that the city manager determines is just and equitable. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter, the city manager is not limited in determining the extent of any discipline ordered. The decision of the city manager is final unless the disciplined officer or employee exercises any right to a public hearing before the trial board as provided by this Charter. This right of appeal does not apply to department directors, assistant department directors, and other managerial personnel designated by the city council, or to employees in departments exempted from the provisions applicable to the civil service.

## CHAPTER XVII. PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## SEC. 2. ORGANIZATION OF BOARD AND TERMS OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS.

(a) The city council shall appoint a number of <u>residents of the City of Dallas</u> [qualified voters of the city] equal to the number of members on the city council who shall constitute the park and recreation board of the city. The members shall possess the same qualifications and be subject to the same disqualifications as provided by the Charter for members of the city council, or by general laws of the State of Texas, <u>except that a member is not required to be a qualified voter of the city</u>, and shall serve without compensation.

## CHAPTER XVIII. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

# SEC. 7. <u>RESERVED.</u> [PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES.

The descriptive caption or title of each ordinance stating in summary the purpose of the ordinance and the penalty for violation of the ordinance, shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the city, unless otherwise provided by state law or this Charter, in which event the specific provisions shall be followed.]

#### SEC. 11. INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM OF ORDINANCES.

Any proposed ordinance may be submitted to the city council in the form in which the petitioner desires the ordinance to be passed, by a petition filed with the city secretary in the following manner:

(1) A committee of at least five <u>residents</u> [registered voters] of the City of Dallas must make application to the city secretary and file an intention to circulate a petition, giving the date and the proposed ordinance to be circulated. Unless the final petition, with the required number of signatures is returned within <u>120</u> [60] days from this date, it will not be received for any purpose.

(2) The petition must contain the names of a number of qualified voters in the city equal to five [40] percent of the qualified voters of the City of Dallas as appears from the latest available county voter registration list.

(3) The petition must comply in form, content, and procedure with the provisions of Section 12, Chapter IV of this Charter.

### SEC. 15. <u>RESERVED.</u> [PROMULGATION OF ORDINANCES BEFORE ELECTION.

Whenever any ordinance or proposition is required by the Charter to be submitted to the voters of the city at any election, the city secretary shall cause the ordinance or proposition to be printed in a newspaper of general circulation in the city and published once at least 10 days prior to election.]

#### CHAPTER XIX. ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES

#### SEC. 7. TAX LIEN; LIABILITY FOR TAXES.

A lien is hereby created on all property, personal and real, in favor of the City of Dallas, for all taxes, ad valorem, occupation or otherwise. Said lien shall exist from the earlier of 30 days after the tax is due or January l of [in] each year until the taxes are paid. Such lien shall be prior to all other claims, and no gift, sale, assignment or transfer of any kind, or judicial writ of any kind, can ever defeat such lien, but the tax assessor and collector may pursue such property, and whenever found may seize and sell enough thereof to satisfy such taxes.

In the event that personal property of the taxpayer is delivered into the actual or constructive possession of a receiver, trustee, or other person because of insolvency, bankruptcy, receivership or otherwise, [between January I and the date that] before the taxes are actually levied, then and in that event the amount of the taxes due shall be the same as was previously levied [for the prior year] for the same property and shall be secured by a lien in that amount.

All persons or corporations owning or holding personal property or real estate in the city <u>from the date the lien exists</u> [on the first day of January of each year] shall be liable for all municipal taxes levied thereon [for such year].

The personal property of all persons owing any taxes to the city is hereby made liable for all of said taxes, whether the same be due upon personal or real property, or upon both.

# **CHAPTER XXII. PUBLIC CONTRACTS**

# SEC. 2. CONTRACT LETTING.

(a) All city contracts calling for or requiring the expenditure or payment of an amount required by state law to be competitively bid creating or imposing an obligation or liability of any nature or character upon the city, must first be submitted for competitive bids in accordance with this chapter. Such bids shall be based upon plans and specifications prepared for that purpose. [Notice of the time and place when and where such contract shall be let shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Dallas once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the time set for letting such contract, the date of the first publication to be at least 14 days prior to the date set for letting said contract.] Such contract shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder.

# SEC. 3. <u>RESERVED.</u> [PUBLIC INSPECTION OF BIDS.

All bids submitted shall be sealed and shall be opened in a public place as directed by the city council, and in the presence of persons that may be designated by the city council, and shall remain open to public inspection for at least 48 hours before any award of said work is made to any competitive bidder. The provisions of this section regarding the retaining of bids 48 hours before awarding the work shall not apply to bids for the purchase of bonds.]

## SEC. 4. EMERGENCY SPENDING, ETC.

The provisions regarding competitive bidding shall not apply in the following instances:

(1) In case of a public calamity where it becomes necessary to act at once to relieve the necessity of the <u>residents</u> [citizens] or to preserve the property of the city.

(2) Where it is necessary to preserve or protect the public health of the <u>residents</u> [citizens] of the city.

# SEC. 10. <u>RESIDENTS</u> [CITIZENS] GIVEN PREFERENCE IN LETTING OF CONTRACTS.

Qualifications, prices and quality of material being equal, <u>residents</u> [citizens] and business firms of Dallas shall be given preference in the awarding of all contracts over which the city has jurisdiction, direct or indirect. This section shall not be construed so as to conflict with any provision of the Charter requiring competitive bidding.

# CHAPTER XXIV. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

# SEC. 17. BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS.

(b) <u>Upon initiation of the councilmember who occupies the city council place of the</u> nominating councilmember, the city council may, by a majority vote, replace a board or commission member prior to completion of the member's two-year term. [A member of any commission or board appointed by the city council may be removed from office for any cause deemed by the city council sufficient for removal in the interest of the public, but only after a public hearing before the city council on charges publicly made, if demanded by such member within 10 days.]

## SEC. 22. PERFORMANCE DEADLINES.

If the last day for performance of an act is a Saturday, Sunday, or national, state, or local holiday, the act is timely if performed on the next regular business day."

SECTION 2. That electronic and computerized voting systems must be used for voting at

and on the date of the special election in compliance with the provisions of the Texas Election

Code, as amended, and the vote must be upon an official ballot prepared in such a manner as will

permit the voters to vote "For" or "Against" the propositions submitted, with the propositions to

be expressed on the official ballot in a form substantially as follows:

## **PROPOSITION NO. 1**

## Adding a Preamble to the City Charter

Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a preamble that declares the city to be an equitable democracy; highlights its diversity and resiliency; champions equity, community empowerment, and accessibility; recognizes indigenous groups who inhabited its land; acknowledges its history; and pledges to build a just and equitable city for all?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 1

# **PROPOSITION NO. 2**

# **Increasing Salaries for the Mayor and Councilmember**

Shall Chapter III, Section 4(a) of the Dallas City Charter be amended to increase the annual salary for the mayor to \$140,000 and the annual salaries for councilmembers to \$125,000, effective upon the swearing in of the mayor and councilmembers in June 2025?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 2

#### **PROPOSITION NO. 3**

#### **Extending City Councilmember Terms**

Shall Chapter III, Section 1 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to change the terms of city councilmembers from four two-year terms to two four-year terms to be phased in starting in June 2027?

## **PROPOSICIÓN NO. 3**

### **PROPOSITION NO. 4**

#### **Providing the City Secretary and City Auditor with Employees**

Shall Chapter IIIA, Section 2 and Chapter IX, Section 2 of the Dallas City Charter, which requires the city council to provide assistants to the city secretary and city auditor, be amended to also require the city council to provide employees to the city secretary and city auditor?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 4

### **PROPOSITION NO. 5**

#### Adding Eligibility Criteria for Serving on the Redistricting Commission

Shall Chapter IV, Section 5(b)(2) of the Dallas City Charter, which establishes the redistricting commission, be amended by adding eligibility criteria for serving on the redistricting commission?

## PROPOSICIÓN NO. 5

#### **PROPOSITION NO. 6**

#### <u>Eliminating the Requirement that Members of Boards and Commissions Created by Charter</u> be Registered to Vote, Qualified Voters, or Qualified Taxpaying Citizens

Shall Chapter IV, Section 5; Chapter XV, Section 3; Chapter XVI, Section 1; and Chapter XVII, Section 2 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by eliminating the requirement that members of the redistricting commission, city plan commission, civil service board, and park and recreation board be registered to vote, qualified voters, or qualified taxpaying citizens?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 6

## **PROPOSITION NO. 7**

#### **Extending Deadline for Referendum Petition Signature Collection from 60 Days to 120 Days**

Shall Chapter XVIII, Section 11(1) of the Dallas City Charter, which establishes procedures for initiative and referendum of ordinances, be amended to extend the deadline petitioners must meet to collect required signatures from 60 days to 120 days?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 7

## **PROPOSITION NO. 8**

#### **Reducing Number of Signatures Required on a Petition to Initiate a Referendum**

Shall Chapter XVIII, Section 11(2) of the Dallas City Charter, which establishes procedures for initiative and referendum of ordinances, be amended to reduce the number of signatures required on a petition from 10 percent of the qualified voters of the City of Dallas to five percent?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 8

### **PROPOSITION NO. 9**

#### <u>Allowing City Council to Replace City Board and Commission Members Before Completion</u> of Board and Commission Terms

Shall Chapter XXIV, Section 17(b) of the Dallas City Charter be amended to allow city council's appointments to city boards and commissions to be replaced by city council prior to completion of a member's two-year term?

## PROPOSICIÓN NO. 9

#### **PROPOSITION NO. 10**

### <u>Allowing the Mayor Pro Tem, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, or City Secretary to Call a City</u> <u>Council Meeting to Order When the Mayor is Absent</u>

Shall Chapter III, Section 11 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to allow the mayor pro tem, deputy mayor pro tem, or city secretary to call a city council meeting to order when the mayor is absent from the meeting location and a quorum of the city council is present?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 10

## **PROPOSITION NO. 11**

### <u>Requiring the Mayor to Assign Standing City Council Committees within 60 Days of</u> <u>Inauguration</u>

Shall Chapter III, Section 13(b) of the Dallas City Charter be amended to require the mayor to assign standing city council committees within 60 days after the date of inauguration and if the mayor does not fulfill this obligation within 60 days, councilmembers will continue to serve on their previous standing committees, with a newly-elected councilmember serving in the place of the previous councilmember of the same district until the mayor appoints, removes, or reassigns members to and from the various standing council committees?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 11

## **PROPOSITION NO. 12**

#### <u>Requiring the City Council to Confirm the Mayor's Appointments to, Reassignment of, and</u> <u>Removal from Standing City Council Committees</u>

Shall Chapter III, Section 13 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to require city council to confirm the mayor's appointments to, reassignment of, and removal from standing city council committees?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 12

### **PROPOSITION NO. 13**

#### <u>Clarifying that Municipal Judges and Associate Municipal Judges Serve Terms Equal to the</u> <u>Terms of City Councilmembers</u>

Shall Chapter VIII, Sections 4 and 6 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to clarify that the terms of municipal judges and associate municipal judges are equal to the length of terms for members of the city council, Places 1 through 14?

## **PROPOSICIÓN NO. 13**

## **PROPOSITION NO. 14**

#### Amending the Appointment Procedure and Qualifications of Associate Municipal Judges

Shall Chapter VIII, Section 6 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to clarify the terms of associate municipal judges and state that associate municipal judges are appointed by city council, receive assignments from the administrative judge or the administrative judge's designee, and must be residents of Dallas within four months of the date of appointment and practicing attorneys in good standing?

# PROPOSICIÓN NO. 14

#### **PROPOSITION NO. 15**

### <u>Technical Amendments to Conform to State Law, City Code, and Actual Practices; to</u> <u>Correct Terms; and to Clarify Language</u>

Shall Chapter III, Section 3; Chapter III, Section 4; Chapter III, Chapter 8(b); Chapter III, Section 13(a); Chapter III, Section 19; Chapter IV, Section 6(a); Chapter IV, Section 6(c)(2); Chapter IV, Section 13; Chapter XI, Section 1; Chapter XI, Section 3; Chapter XII, Section 4; Chapter XIII, Section 9; Chapter XIV, Section 8; Chapter XV, Section 3; Chapter XV, Section 3; Chapter XV, Section 4; Chapter XVI, Section 3(b)(1); Chapter XVI, Section 7; Chapter XVI, Section 10(a); Chapter XVI, Section 11(b); Chapter XVIII, Section 7; Chapter XVIII, Section 11(1); Chapter XVIII, Section 15; Chapter XIX, Section 7; Chapter XXII, Section 2; Chapter XXII, Section 3; Chapter XXII, Section 4(1); Chapter XXII, Section 10; and Chapter XXIV of the Dallas City Charter be amended to conform to state law, conform to the city code, match actual practices, correct terms, clarify language, and other technical amendments?

#### **PROPOSICIÓN NO. 15**

SECTION 3. That the election must be held and conducted in the manner provided by law governing the holding of city charter elections by home rule cities of the State of Texas. The official ballots, together with such other election materials as are required by the Texas Election Code, as amended, must be printed in both the English and Spanish languages and must contain such provisions, markings, and language as may be required by law.

SECTION 4. That the boundaries of the election precincts in which the election is to be held are defined by Ordinance No. 20231, as amended by Ordinance Nos. 20741, 21350, 21579, 22343, 22693, 23348, 24800, 25696, 27484, 28147, 28937, and 29375. Locations of the polling places in the election precincts are listed in the attached Exhibit A.

SECTION 5. That each voter must vote in the precinct in which the voter resides, and only resident qualified voters are entitled to vote.

SECTION 6. That a person qualified to vote and residing in the city of Dallas, but not within any precinct described in Ordinance No. 20231, as amended by Ordinance Nos. 20741, 21350, 21579, 22343, 22693, 23348, 24800, 25696, 27484, 28147, 28937, and 29375 may vote in the precinct nearest the person's residence, and for that purpose the person's residence will be

considered as part of that city election precinct. A person who has registered in a city election precinct, but whose residence is not in the city of Dallas, is not entitled to vote in the special election even though the person may own property subject to taxation in the city.

SECTION 7. That early voting by personal appearance will be by the use of an electronic voting system in accordance with the Texas Election Code, as amended. That tallying of early voting by mail will be by the use of a computerized voting system in accordance with the Texas Election Code, as amended. Early voting will be conducted at the following main locations and at the other locations during the dates and times designated in Exhibit B.

Dallas County Records Building 509 Main Street Dallas, Texas 75202

Collin County Elections Administration Office 2010 Redbud Boulevard, Suite 102 McKinney, Texas 75069

Denton County Elections Administration Office 701 Kimberly Drive Denton, Texas 76208

SECTION 8. Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than close of

business on Friday, October 25, 2024. That applications for early voting ballots to be voted by

mail must be mailed to:

Early Voting Clerk Elections Department 2377 N. Stemmons Freeway, Suite 820 Dallas, Texas 75207

Collin County Elections Administration Office 2010 Redbud Boulevard, Suite 102 McKinney, Texas 75609

Denton County Elections Administration Office P. O. Box 1720 Denton, Texas 76202 SECTION 9. That the early voting ballots will be processed by an early voting ballot board to be created in accordance with the Texas Election Code, as amended.

SECTION 10. That the mayor shall give notice of the special election by causing the notice to be published in a newspaper within the city and posted on the city's public meeting bulletin board in accordance with applicable state law governing notice of charter elections.

SECTION 11. That this ordinance will take effect immediately from and after its passage and publication in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so ordained.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

TAMMY L. PALOMINO, City Attorney

By\_\_\_\_

Assistant City Attorney

Passed\_\_\_\_\_