



CHARTER REVIEW SPECIAL COMMITTEE

The Honorable Ryan Dorsey
CHAIR

HEARING NOTES

26-0172

Charter Amendment – Charter Committee Recommendations

Hearing Date: 4/22/2026

Hearing Start Time: 1:00 PM

Hearing End Time: 4:00 PM

Location: Du Burns Council Chamber / Webex

Total Estimated Attendance: 20

Committee Members in Attendance:

- **Chair** Ryan Dorsey
 - Odette Ramos
 - Jermaine Jones
 - **Vice Chair** John Bullock
 - Zac Blanchard
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MAJOR SPEAKERS

(This is NOT an attendance record.)

- Committee members
 - Jeff Hochstetler – Chief Solicitor, Department of Law
 - Ty’lor Schnella – Deputy Director, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations
 - Bob Cenamme – Deputy Director, Department of Finance
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NOTES

- Chair Dorsey welcomed the committee and those in attendance
- The Council President thanked the committee for its work
- There are three sets of amendments, with substantial overlap between Cohen and Dorsey, Dorsey and MOGR amendments also include explanations of purpose/action
 - Dorsey
 - 1 – removes the Board of Estimates from the Budget process
 - Simplifies the overall budget process
 - 2 – removes requirement that ordinance of estimates be published in newspapers and replaces with a manner accessible to all city residents
 - 3 – clarifying the revenue sourcing for non-lapsing funds as included in the ordinance of estimates
 - 4 – standardizing the use of “conditional” as opposed to “contingent”

- 5 – altering transition provision to reflect effective date under state law
- 6 – authorize the council to alter the budget at the request of the Director of the Department of Finance
- 7 – Decouples passage of revenue ordinance from budget
- Questions
 - CM Jones – clarify the purpose of amendment 3
 - Chair – Law report requested the clarification that special funds are already calculated as revenue sources
 - Current bill does not show them as a revenue source, but something money is appropriated to
 - Correction of conceptual flaw
 - CW Ramos – how do we need to correct the errors in this amendment
 - Chair – the standard for amendments presented to the committee in writing in advance of the hearing is a matter of rules
- Cohen
 - 1 – clarifies that the beginning of the new fiscal year concludes the budget process entirely
 - 2 – duplicates Dorsey 3
 - 3 – duplicates Dorsey 3
 - 4 – Duplicates Dorsey 4
 - 5 – would retain limit on hiring in BOE/budget article
 - Chair
 - Law requested the retention of this section but noted it was not a matter of form and legal sufficiency
 - Concern for section c on p. 14, line 24 of the bill
 - Believes the city could find itself unable to pay the salary of someone hired for a position not appropriated for – this would be a floating debts
 - There are many ways a floating debt could be created, seems unnecessary to call out this specific provision
 - 6 – duplicates Dorsey amendment 5
 - 7 – duplicates (in part) Dorsey 1
 - 8 – requests it should not be optional for the BOE to adopt rules and regulations for how it operates, requires the BOE is mandated to adopt those rules and regulations
- MOGR
 - 1 – eliminates changes to veto timing
 - 2 – eliminated conditional appropriation provisions
 - 3 – eliminates proposal authorizing creation of non-lapsing funds by ordinance
 - 4 – changes date of budget submission to April 30
 - 5 – authorizes planning commission to submit recommendations for additional capital projects to the city council
 - 6 – makes effective date for all proposals December 5, 2028
 - CM Bullock – supports the planning commission amendment
 - CW Ramos – is amendment number 5 the same as the finance amendment for Dorsey

- Chair – would extend the opportunity to request increases to both finance and planning
- The committee went into recess

Hearing Packet in bill file? ----- **YES** **NO** **N/A**
Attendance Sheet in bill file?----- **YES** **NO** **N/A**
Vote Record in bill file? ----- **YES** **NO** **N/A**
Agency reports read? ----- **YES** **NO** **N/A**
Hearing televised or audio-digitally recorded? ----- **YES** **NO** **N/A**
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the bill file? ----- **YES** **NO** **N/A**
Evidence of notification to property owners in bill file? ----- **YES** **NO** **N/A**

Notes by: Ethan Navarre
Notes Date: 4/22/2026

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