To remove term limits and change the term so that all officials are elected in one year and take office in July
Sponsored by: Councilmember Carey

CHARTER RESOLUTION 11-CR-02

Charter Resolution of the Town of University Park, Maryland, pursuant to the authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Section 13 of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended, to amend the Charter of the Town of University Park, by repealing and re-enacting Article III, "Mayor and Common Council", Section 301, "Number, Term of Office", Section 304 "Meetings of Mayor and Council", and Article V "Registration, Nomination and Elections", Section 504 "Elections" of said Charter to remove terms limits for the offices of Mayor and Council, and to change the terms of office so that Mayor and Council are all elected in the same year with two year terms.

Section 1: Be it resolved and ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of University Park that Article III, "Mayor and Common Council", Section 301, "Number, Term of Office" of the Charter of the Town of University Park be repealed and re-enacted as follows:

Section 301. Number, Term of Office

[~~(a)~~] The Common Council shall consist of seven members and a Mayor who shall be elected as set forth in Article V. The Mayor and Council members shall each hold office for a term of two years, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE SET OUT HEREIN. The term of elected officers shall begin at the close of the regular meeting in May and shall end at the close of the regular meeting in May of the final year of the term of office of such person, or until a successor takes office, whichever is later. THE TERM OF OFFICERS ELECTED IN MAY, 2012 ONLY SHALL BEGIN AT THE CLOSE OF THE REGULAR MEETING IN MAY, 2012 AND SHALL END AT THE CLOSE OF THE REGULAR MEETING IN MAY, 2013. THE TERM OF OFFICERS ELECTED IN MAY, 2013, SHALL BEGIN AT THE CLOSE OF THE REGULAR MEETING IN MAY AND SHALL END ON JUNE 30, 2015. ALL OFFICERS ELECTED AFTER MAY,

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EXPLANATION:
CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW
[~~Brackets~~] indicate matter deleted from existing law
Asterisks indicate provisions of existing law which have been omitted from resolution and remain

2013 SHALL TAKE OFFICE ON JULY 1 AND THEIR TERM SHALL END JUNE 30 OF THE FINAL YEAR OF THE TERM OF OFFICE OF SUCH PERSON, OR UNTIL A SUCCESSOR TAKES OFFICE, WHICHEVER IS LATER.

[~~(b) Commencing with the regular election to be held in May, 1981, no person shall serve in the same elected position for more than three (3) consecutive two-year terms; however, this provision shall not apply to persons holding office on the date this provision is effective~~.]

Section 2: Be it further resolved and ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of University Park that Article III, "Mayor and Common Council", Section 304, "Meetings" of the Charter of the Town of University Park be repealed and re-enacted as follows:

Section 304. Meetings of Mayor and Council

(a) Regular Meetings. The Mayor and Common Council shall meet in a convenient place in the Town on or before the last Monday in [~~May~~] JUNE of each year, and as often thereafter as may be necessary to discharge their duties, provided, however, that they shall not meet less than once in every month. Special meetings may be called by the Mayor with the consent of a majority of the Council. The Mayor shall also call a special meeting at the request of a majority of the members of the Council. In the absence of the Mayor, a majority of the members of the Common Council, may call a special meeting for a specific purpose. No matters other than those for which the meeting is called may be considered. Upon convening such meeting the Council may elect a chairperson to preside at the special meeting. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section, meetings of the Mayor and Common Council shall be open to the public and residents of the Town shall have reasonable opportunity to be heard at any meeting in regard to any municipal question.

(b) –(c) * * * *

Section 3: Be it further resolved and ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of University Park that Article V, "Registration, Nomination and Elections", Section 504, "Elections" of the Charter of the Town of University Park be repealed and re-enacted as follows:

Section 504. Elections

(a) At or before the February general meeting each ELECTION year, the Common Council will set the date in May for general elections in the Town. If the Common Council fails to do so on or before that date, the general elections for Town offices shall be held on the first Tuesday in May. The Mayor and Common Council are authorized to provide for the conduct of special elections, as appropriate. Special elections shall be conducted, as far as practicable, under

the same procedures as general elections.

(b) – (k) * * * *

Section 4: Be it further resolved that this resolution shall become effective fifty days after enactment by the Mayor and Common Council of University Park, Maryland, unless petitioned to referendum in a manner prescribed by law.

Section 5: Be it further resolved that a complete and exact copy of this proposed Charter amendment shall be posted on the entrance door of the Town Hall of University Park, 6724 Baltimore Avenue, University Park, Maryland, for a period of not less than forty (40) days, and a fair summary of this Charter amendment shall be published at least four times on four successive weeks within that forty day period in a newspaper having general circulation in the community.

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2011.

ATTEST:

MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL
TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK

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By:_____
John Rogard Tabori, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

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Suellen M. Ferguson, Town Attorney