

**RESOLUTION NO. 3125**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WILSONVILLE REFERRING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF WILSONVILLE THE QUESTION OF AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER TO REFINE MAYORAL TERM LIMITS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.**

WHEREAS, under Article XI, Section 2 of the Oregon Constitution, the City of Wilsonville has “home rule” authority over the civil affairs of the City; and

WHEREAS, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution and ORS Chapters 250 and 251 authorize the City to refer a matter to voters to amend the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter II, Section 4; Chapter III, Section 6; Chapter VI, Section 24 of the City Charter, and other relevant provisions of the City Charter, Wilsonville Code, and Oregon state law, the City Council has the power to refer a matter to voters; and

WHEREAS, in May 2020, the Wilsonville electorate approved a ballot measure establishing term limits for individuals who serve on City Council that limits years of service to twelve (12) years in a 20-year period, which is codified in Section 29 of the Wilsonville City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the term limit of twelve (12) years in a 20-year period does not distinguish between serving as mayor or councilor; and

WHEREAS, in March 2022 and thereafter, the City Council received both written and oral comments from members of the public expressing concern regarding the combined term limits for the mayor and council positions; and

WHEREAS, the community members’ concerns focused on the potential lack of continuity of Council vision, experience, and regional and statewide partnerships and collaboration due to the combined term limits; and

WHEREAS, the members of the public requested that the City Council consider referring a ballot measure to refine the mayoral term limits to address these concerns; and

WHEREAS, Section 29 of the City Charter was modeled after an amendment made to the Tualatin City Charter in 2016 that established term limits; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the City of Tualatin referred a ballot measure to its voters to refine the mayoral term limits in a manner similar to the amendment Council seeks to refer to Wilsonville voters.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF WILSONVILLE RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Measure. A measure election is hereby called for the purpose of submitting to the electors of the City of Wilsonville a measure amending the City Charter to refine mayoral term limits in certain circumstances, a copy of which is attached as **Exhibit A**, and incorporated by reference herein.

Section 2. Election Conducted by Mail. The measure election shall be held in the City of Wilsonville on May 21, 2024, at the next statewide primary election. As required by ORS 254.465, the measure election shall be conducted by mail by the County Clerks of Washington & Clackamas Counties, according to the procedures adopted by the Oregon Secretary of State.

Section 3. Delegation. The City Council authorizes the City Manager or designee to act on behalf of the City and to take such further action as necessary to carry out the intent and purposes set forth herein, in compliance with applicable provisions of law.

Section 4. Preparation of Ballot Title. The City Attorney has prepared the ballot title for the measure, which is attached as **Exhibit B**, and incorporated by reference herein. The City Council approves the ballot measure, and the City Attorney is hereby directed to deposit the ballot title with the City Recorder within the time established by law.

Section 5. Notice of Ballot Title and Right to Appeal. Upon receiving the ballot title for this measure, the City Recorder must publish in the next available edition of a newspaper of general circulation in the city a notice of receipt of ballot title, including notice that an elector may file a petition for review of the ballot title.

Section 6. Explanatory Statement. The explanatory statement for the measure attached as **Exhibit C**, and incorporated by reference herein, is hereby approved by the City Council.

Section 7. The City Recorder shall deliver Notice of Measure Election to the County Clerks for Washington & Clackamas County for inclusion on the ballot for the May 21, 2024 election.

Section 8. Effective Date. This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the Wilsonville City Council at a regular meeting thereof this 22nd day of February, 2024, and filed with the Wilsonville City Recorder this date.

DocuSigned by:  
*Julie Fitzgerald*  
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JULIE FITZGERALD, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
*Kimberly Veliz*  
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Kimberly Veliz, City Recorder

SUMMARY OF VOTES:

Mayor Fitzgerald	Yes
Council President Akervall	Yes
Councilor Linville	Yes
Councilor Berry	Yes
Councilor Dunwell	Yes

EXHIBITS:

- A. Measure Language
- B. Ballot Title
- C. Explanatory Statement

**Exhibit A**  
**Resolution No. 3125**

MEASURE LANGUAGE

Section 29 of the City of Wilsonville Charter is amended as follows:

No person shall be eligible to serve on the City Council more than twelve (12) years in any twenty (20) year period, whether serving as Councilor, Mayor, a pro tem member, or a combination thereof, except if a person has served only two terms as a City Councilor, then that person shall be eligible to serve another two consecutive terms as Mayor. No person may be elected or appointed to an office on the City Council if completing that term of office would cause a violation of these term limits. The calculation of "years" shall include those preceding the enactment of this Section, but shall not prevent any member of the City Council from completing a term of office. To be eligible for election or appointment to an office on the City Council, prior years of service on the City Council shall be calculated by first determining the aggregate number of days a person has previously served as a member of the City Council within the period of twenty calendar years prior to the commencement of the proposed term, and then attributing a year of service for every 365.25 days of service within that period.

**EXHIBIT B  
RESOLUTION NO. 3125**

**CITY OF WILSONVILLE BALLOT MEASURE \_\_\_\_\_**

**CAPTION (10-word maximum)**

Amends Charter to Modify Mayoral Term Limits in Certain Circumstances.  
(10 words)

**QUESTION (20-word maximum)**

Should the Charter be amended to allow a two-term City Councilor the opportunity to serve two consecutive terms as Mayor?  
(20 words)

**SUMMARY (175-word maximum)**

The Measure would amend the Charter of the City of Wilsonville to modify the term limits for the Office of Mayor. If passed, the Measure would allow a person to serve two terms (up to 8 years) as a City Councilor followed by two consecutive terms (8 years) as Mayor, in a 20-year period.

The existing City Charter imposes term limits on a person serving on City Council as Mayor, Councilor, or a combination of the two offices, to no more than 12 years in a 20-year period. Under the current Charter language, if a person previously served two terms as a City Councilor, the person is limited to serving one term (4 years) as Mayor, in a 20-year period. The measure would modify the Charter such that a person who previously served two terms as a City Councilor could serve two consecutive terms as Mayor, for a total of up to 16 years on City Council in a 20-year period. In all other circumstances, the 12-year limit in a 20-year period applies.  
(173 words)

**EXHIBIT C  
RESOLUTION NO. 3125**

**CITY OF WILSONVILLE BALLOT MEASURE \_\_\_\_\_**

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT (500-word maximum)

This Measure, if approved, would amend Section 29 of the Charter of the City of Wilsonville (“Charter”) to modify the term limits applicable to the office of Mayor in certain circumstances. If passed, the Measure would allow a person who has previously served two terms (up to 8 years) as a City Councilor to be eligible to serve two consecutive terms (8 years) as Mayor, if elected, in a 20-year period.

The City Council consists of the Mayor and four City Councilors. Each position is separately elected in accordance with the Charter. The Charter provides that the Mayor is elected to a four-year term and each City Councilor is elected to a four-year term. The existing Charter language imposes term limits to prohibit a person from serving on Council to no more than 12 years in a 20-year period. The 12-year limit in the Charter applies to the total amount of time a person serves on the City Council, whether the person is serving as Mayor, City Councilor, or any combination of the two offices.

This Measure would amend the Charter to modify the term limits applicable to the office of the Mayor in the circumstance where the person has previously served two terms (up to 8 years) as a City Councilor. Under the existing Charter language, if a person previously served two terms (up to 8 years) as a City Councilor, the person can only serve one term (4 years) as Mayor, in a 20-year period. If approved, this Measure would allow a person to serve as Mayor for two consecutive terms (8 years), instead of only one term (4 years).

The effect of the Measure would allow a person to possibly serve a total of up to 16 years on City Council in a 20-year period if the person serves two terms (up to 8 years) as City Councilor and then two consecutive terms (8 years) as Mayor. In all other circumstances, the general term limit of 12 years in any 20-year period would apply to the office of Mayor. The Measure does not change the term limits for City Councilors.

This Measure would become effective immediately upon passage.  
(361 words)