

**REQUESTED BY SUSAN BITTER SMITH - MULTI-MEMBER DISTRICT PROPOSAL -**

**Amend the Scottsdale City Charter by changing article 2, sections 2, 3, 4, and 11, providing for selection of the mayor and council members, terms of the mayor and council members, qualifications of the mayor and council members, and vacancy in the office of mayor or council members, and changing article 9, section 5 relating to the majority needed to elect in the general election, that would accommodate elections under a district system of election. The proposal would approve a district form of government where the mayor is elected at large, by all of the voters, and where six council members are elected by and represent Scottsdale residents living in one of three geographic areas with approximately equal population, with two council members per district.**

**Art. 2, Sec. 2. Number; selection.**

The council shall consist of a mayor, **ELECTED AT LARGE FROM THE CITY**, and six (6) councilmen **MEMBERS. TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS SHALL BE** elected from **EACH OF THREE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICTS WITHIN** the city-at-large **CITY OF SCOTTSDALE. EACH DISTRICT SHALL BE SUBSTANTIALLY EQUAL IN POPULATION. EACH ELECTOR SHALL VOTE ONLY FOR THE MAYOR AND THE TWO COUNCIL CANDIDATES IN THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE ELECTOR RESIDES. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL SHALL ADOPT, BY ORDINANCE, THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES, AT LEAST ONCE EVERY TEN (10) YEARS BASED ON THE PREVIOUS DECENNIAL CENSUS.**

**Art. 2, Sec. 3. Terms of mayor and councilman**

~~A. The terms of the mayor and each member of the council shall commence at the first regular meeting of the council following the date set for the run-off election, even if no such run-off election is held, and shall be for four consecutive years thereafter,~~ **IS ELECTED FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM** or until his or her successor is duly elected and inducted into office. ~~The mayor and three members of the council shall be elected in the year 2000, and three members of the council shall be elected two years thereafter.~~

**B. COUNCILMEN ARE ELECTED ON A STAGGERED BASIS TO SERVE A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, OR UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE DULY ELECTED AND INDUCTED INTO OFFICE.**

**C. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL SHALL ADOPT, BY ORDINANCE, THE METHOD TO IMPLEMENT THE ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FROM THREE DIFFERENT DISTRICTS AT EACH PRIMARY ELECTION AND, IF NECESSARY, GENERAL ELECTION.**

**Art. 2, Sec. 4. Qualifications.**

A. The mayor and council ~~men~~**MEMBER** shall be qualified electors of the city, and shall hold no other public office which in ~~any way~~ conflicts with the office of mayor or councilman ~~member,~~ and shall have resided in said city, or in an area annexed to said city,

**B. THE MAYOR SHALL HAVE BEEN A PERMANENT RESIDENT OF THE CITY, OR AN AREA ANNEXED TO THE CITY, for one (1) year next preceding the date of his election or appointment. If the mayor or councilman shall cease to possess any of these qualifications or shall be convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, his office shall immediately become vacant, AND SHALL CONTINUE TO RESIDE WITHIN THE CITY DURING HIS TENURE.**

**C. EACH COUNCIL MEMBER SHALL HAVE BEEN A PERMANENT RESIDENT OF THE DISTRICT, OR AN AREA ANNEXED TO THE CITY WITHIN THE DISTRICT, THAT HE OR SHE WILL REPRESENT FOR ONE (1) YEAR NEXT PRECEDING THE DATE OF HIS ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT, AND SHALL CONTINUE TO RESIDE IN THE DISTRICT DURING HIS TENURE.**

**Art. 2, Sec. 11. Vacancy in the office of councilman or mayor.**

**A. THE OFFICE OF MAYOR OR COUNCIL MEMBER SHALL BECOME VACANT UPON DEATH, RESIGNATION, FORFEITURE OF OFFICE, OR REMOVAL FROM OFFICE IN ANY MANNER AUTHORIZED BY LAW.**

**B. THE MAYOR OR COUNCIL MEMBER SHALL FORFEIT HIS OFFICE IF HE LACKS, AT ANY TIME DURING HIS TERM OF OFFICE, ANY QUALIFICATION FOR THE OFFICE PRESCRIBED BY THIS CHARTER OR BY LAW.**

**C. The council, by majority vote of its remaining members, shall within thirty-one (31) days, fill the ANY vacancy in its own membership, including the office of mayor, by appointing a person to serve until the office is filled by election. If a vacancy in either the office of the mayor or councilman occurs less than thirty (30) days prior, QUALIFIED UNDER THIS CHARTER. IF A VACANCY OCCURS LESS THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS PRIOR to the final date for filing nomination petitions for the general election, the council PERSON APPOINTED shall appoint by majority vote a person to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. If a vacancy occurs in the office of mayor more than thirty (30) days OR MORE prior to the final date for filing nomination petitions for the general election, the vacancy shall be filled for a four (4) year term PERSON APPOINTED SHALL SERVE UNTIL REPLACED BY HIS SUCCESSOR TO BE ELECTED at the next regular election, WHO SHALL SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM. and run-off election, if necessary, as provided in this charter. If a vacancy occurs in the office of councilman more than thirty (30) days prior to the final date for filing nomination petitions, the unexpired term shall be filled at the next regular general election and run-off election, if necessary, as provided in this charter. In any general election or run-off election, if necessary, as provided in this charter, when more than three (3) vacancies exist in the office of councilman, and have to be filled at said election, the three (3) candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected for four (4) year terms as provided in article 2, section 4 of this charter and the candidate or candidates equal in number to the vacancies to be filled receiving the next greatest number of votes in descending order shall be elected for the unexpired term or terms.**

**Art. 9, Sec. 5. Majority to elect in AT general PRIMARY ELECTION.**

A. Any candidate **FOR MAYOR**, who shall receive at the ~~general~~ PRIMARY election, the number of votes constituting a majority of all of the ballots cast, shall be declared to be elected to the office for which he **OR SHE** is a candidate, and no further elections shall be held ~~as to said candidate provided that if more candidates receive the number of votes constituting a majority of all of the ballots cast than there are offices to be filled, then those candidates, equal in number of the offices to be filled, receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared to be elected.~~

**B. ANY CANDIDATE FOR COUNCILMAN WHO SHALL RECEIVE AT THE PRIMARY ELECTION, THE NUMBER OF VOTES CONSTITUTING A MAJORITY OF ALL OF THE BALLOTS CAST, SHALL BE DECLARED TO BE ELECTED TO THE OFFICE FOR THAT DISTRICT IN WHICH HE IS A CANDIDATE AND NO FURTHER ELECTIONS SHALL BE HELD.**