

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR PRINTING IN THE
MARION COUNTY VOTER PAMPHLET

Measure No. 24-499

Election Date: May 21, 2024

See attached.

Marion County Clerk

MAR 20 2024

Total Words 498 (NOTE: This statement must not exceed 500 words.)

Authorized Signature Signature redacted Title City Attorney

Printed Name Laura Conroy

Local Government Unit City of Detroit

MAR 20 2024

This measure would provide a new charter for Detroit. A charter is a city's foundational document that outlines the principles, structures and processes of the city's government. Oregon law allows city voters to organize their city government as the majority of voters consider best suited to meet the city's needs. The proposed charter would become operative July 1, 2024.

If adopted, the proposed charter would, among other things:

- Change the qualifications of officers so any person who is a qualified elector of the city within the meaning of the state constitution who has been registered to vote in the city of Detroit, Oregon during the twelve months immediately preceding the election may be nominated for an elective office. The current requirements that describe residency and proof of residency would be removed.
- Eliminate the additional residency requirements that define primary and non-primary residents making any qualified elector of the city eligible for an elective office.
- Eliminate the requirement that the mayor be a councilor who is a primary resident.
- Remove the limitation that prohibits more than two non-primary residents from serving on the seven member city council. Any qualified elector will be eligible to serve in each of the seven council positions.
- Clarify that a person appointed to fill a vacancy in an elective office of the city must be a qualified elector within the meaning of the state constitution and be registered to vote in the City of Detroit, Oregon, but is not required to meet the twelve-month requirement of someone seeking elected office.
- Reduce the number of signatures required to sign a nomination petition to nominate a person for elective office from the present requirement of twenty electors down to fifteen.
- Change public improvement language to be consistent with the League of Oregon Cities Model Charter and replace the term "remonstrate" with "objection."
- Remove language stating the liability of a city officer or employee who causes the city to exceed debt limits, and instead limit city indebtedness to not exceed debt limits imposed by state law.
- Remove gender-exclusive references found in the city's current charter.

If the proposed charter is not adopted, the city's present charter remains in place and none of the described charter changes would occur.

If the proposed charter is adopted, the financial impact would be minimal.

The referral follows a series of work sessions of the council appointed charter review committee which recommended the changes to council after a public meeting on July 9, 2022. In November, voters rejected the measure by a narrow margin.

The City Council reviewed the 2022 charter review committee work and concluded that the recommended changes should again be presented to the voters. Given the City's continued recovery from the wildfires, the Council determined the 2022 Charter proposal may not have been adequately publicized and understood.

Detroit's voters amended the city's charter last by emergency election in December, 2012.

Complete copies of the proposed charter showing all changes are available from the city recorder's office and at <http://detroitoregon.us>.

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MARION COUNTY OREGON

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SILL BURGESS
COUNTY CLERK

BY McC DEPUTY