

Measure 26-249

# Notice of Measure Election

## SEL 802

rev 01/18 ORS 250.035, 250.041,  
250.275, 250.285, 254.095, 254.465

City

<b>Notice</b>		
<b>Date of Notice</b> July 17, 2024	<b>Name of City or Cities</b> City of Portland	<b>Date of Election</b> November 5, 2024

**Final Ballot Title** The following is the final ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the city's voters. The ballot title notice has been published and the ballot title challenge process has been completed.

**Caption** 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.

Amends Charter: Deletes outdated, redundant requirements to approve utility franchises.

**Question** 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure.

Shall Charter be amended to streamline Council approval of utility franchise agreements and remove outdated, burdensome and redundant requirements?

**Summary** 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.

See attached.

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

**Explanatory Statement** 500 words that impartially explains the measure and its effect.

If the county is producing a voters' pamphlet an explanatory statement must be drafted and attached to this form for:  
→ any measure referred by the city governing body; or  
→ any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.      Explanatory Statement Attached?     Yes     No

**Authorized City Official** Not required to be notarized.

<b>Name</b> Louise Hansen	<b>Title</b> City Elections Officer
<b>Mailing Address</b> 1221 SW 4th Ave, Portland, OR 97204	<b>Contact Phone</b> (503)865-6503

*By signing this document:*  
→ I hereby state that I am authorized by the city to submit this Notice of Measure Election; and  
→ I certify that notice of receipt of ballot title has been published and the ballot title challenge process for this measure completed.

REDACTED SIGNATURE

7/17/24

Signature

Date Signed

## **Ballot Title**

### **CAPTION**

Amends Charter: Deletes outdated, redundant requirements to approve utility franchises.

### **QUESTION**

Shall Charter be amended to streamline Council approval of utility franchise agreements and remove outdated, burdensome and redundant requirements?

### **SUMMARY**

The Charter Commission proposed a measure to streamline the approval of franchise agreements, which authorize a utility to use City streets to provide residents with utility services.

Currently, City Council must approve franchises using a lengthy and outdated process described in Chapter 10, Article 2 of the Charter.

If the measure is approved, the following requirements would be deleted:

- Redundant filing with Auditor
- Objection process
- Publication of lengthy franchise in newspaper
- Extended time between reading of ordinance to approve franchise
- Extended effective date
- Written acceptance by franchisee

Instead, Council would grant franchises by ordinance, in accordance with standard ordinance publication, public testimony, adoption and effective date provisions in Charter and code. Other provisions.

The City Budget Office determined the measure has no direct financial impact.

## **Explanatory Statement**

The volunteer Charter Commission recommended amending the City Charter to streamline Council approval of utility franchise agreements by removing outdated, burdensome and redundant requirements. A utility franchise agreement authorizes a utility to use City streets to provide residents with utility services.

Currently, Chapter 10, Article 2 of the Charter requires City Council to use a lengthy and outdated process that can take over six months to complete. For example, the entire franchise – which can run 25 pages or longer – must be published in the newspaper.

Under the Commission's recommendation, outdated and redundant requirements specific to franchise agreements would be deleted. Instead, Council would grant franchises using its standard ordinance process. The standard process includes ordinance publication, public testimony, and adoption and effective date provisions located in Charter and code.