



July 30, 2025

Dear Honorable Mayor and Council Members of Palm Coast,

This letter is to relay my interest in facilitating the City of Palm Coast's Comprehensive Charter Review. With my extensive experience and professional background, I am confident in my ability to provide the Charter Review Board members with the necessary guidance and focus to complete the process within the proposed six-month timeframe. This will be achieved through close collaboration with staff and elected officials. Additionally, I have a proven track record of successfully engaging community members.

Qualifications

I currently serve as the Director of the Master of Public Administration program at the University of North Florida, where my teaching and research are centered on local government and nonprofit organizations. My deep understanding of municipal charters and their impact on communities enables me to offer the Charter Review Board a comprehensive perspective on potential outcomes of proposed changes, as well as the implications of maintaining the status quo.

My professional background is further enriched by my experience in public service. As an elected member of Jacksonville Beach's City Council, serving from 2018 - 2022, I have championed the development of a strategic plan, mission, and vision for the city. During my tenure, the city undertook its first full charter review in over twenty years, involving elected officials and citizen input at each meeting. I have also presented to the City of Atlantic Beach's Charter Review Commission, composed of resident volunteers, on the charter review process, the roles of the members, and the steps required for a successful review. Most recently, I facilitated St. Augustine Beach's comprehensive charter review process.

My commitment to community engagement is evident through my participation in various initiatives. I was a member of the City of Jacksonville's Task Force on Consolidated Government, where we analyzed and recommended changes to the city's charter regarding government structure, as well as internal structures, policies, and processes. Several of these recommendations were approved by the electorate and incorporated into the charter.

In addition to my roles on the Jacksonville Beach City Council and the City of Jacksonville's Task Force on Consolidated Government, I have served on Jacksonville Beach's Planning Commission, the City of Jacksonville's Public Service Grants Council, and most recently, Jacksonville's Mayor Deegan's Transition Committee on Constituent

and Community Outreach. These experiences have provided me with multiple perspectives on charter revisions and a deep understanding of the process.

Process

The charter review process will consist of two distinct components: community engagement and facilitating discussions and decision-making within the Charter Review Board.

Community Engagement

To engage community members, we will utilize existing communication channels, including social media, to inform the public about the city's request for their input. Direct communication will be established with past elected officials and volunteers who have served on city boards, task forces, or participated in city activities. Current volunteer board members and elected officials will also be invited to share their concerns and potential changes.

Once participants are identified, I will facilitate community listening sessions in each city district to gather broad input. This data will then be conveyed to the Charter Review Committee.

Charter Review Committee

The facilitation of the Charter Review Committee will involve developing a structured review process, delivering an initial presentation on the board's purpose, and conducting a thorough examination of the current charter, broken down into manageable sections for each meeting. Additionally, an overview of the topic categories from the community listening sessions will be presented, with detailed discussions reintroduced during the review of corresponding charter sections.

Each subsequent meeting with the Charter Review Committee will focus on specific sections of the charter. These sections will be reviewed and discussed, with professional feedback provided to enable informed decision-making. Community feedback from the listening sessions will be integrated into these discussions. Each committee meeting will begin with an opportunity for community members to address the committee.

Deliverables

The final deliverable will be a comprehensive list of recommended changes to the charter, presented to the council for consideration and potential inclusion on the general election ballot.

Compensation

Standard compensation for these consulting services is \$250 per hour, plus mileage. The following are estimates for this proposal:

Table 1: Estimated Costs

	Rate	Anticipated	Total
Hourly - Facilitation Listening Sessions (1 hour each)	\$250	6	\$1500
Hourly - Facilitation Charter Review Committee (2 hours each)	\$250	5	\$2500
Hourly - Prep	\$250	12	\$3000
Travel pay at 2 hours per trip (round trips)	\$200	11	\$4400
Travel exp at 142 miles, round trip (fed rate)	\$0.70	11	\$1093.4
			\$12,493.4

*Calculations based on 11 trips

If you have any questions, feel free to out to me. My number is 904.486.6865 or you can email me at georgettedumont@gmail.com.

Thank you again, and I look forward to the opportunity to help Palm Coast ensure its charter will prepare the city for the next decade.

Regards,

Georgette E. Dumont

Principal Consultant

Civic Solutions