

Charter Amendment timeline:

<p>“States, as well as the public, will receive the data they need to begin redistricting by August 16. The Census Bureau will also deliver the final redistricting data toolkit to all states and the public by September 30.” https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/decade/2020/2020-census-results.html</p>	<p>August 16 – September 30, 2021</p>
<p>Cities re-draw ward lines</p>	<p>September - October</p>
<p>Proposed charter amendment on new ward lines is introduced during city council meeting, referred to committee, and a public hearing set (at least 10 days from date of meeting to allow for publication of notice at least 7 days prior to the hearing).</p>	<p>November 1 – 10</p>
<p>Public hearing</p>	<p>November 11 - 20</p>
<p>City council votes on new ward lines and files a report with the city clerk. Within 10 days, the city clerk forwards a copy of the proposed charter amendment to the secretary of state, the attorney general, and DRA.</p>	<p>By November 30</p>
<p>Within 45 days after the receipt of the report the secretary of state, attorney general, and commissioner of the department of revenue administration shall review the proposed charter, charter revision, or charter amendment to insure that it is consistent with the general laws of this state, and shall give notice to the municipal clerk approving or disapproving the proposed charter.</p>	<p>December</p>
<p>Within 7 days after receiving approval from the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the commissioner of the department of revenue administration under RSA 49-B:4-a, the municipal officers may order the proposed amendment to be placed on a ballot.</p>	<p>January 1 – 10</p>
<p>...the municipal officers may order amendments to be placed on the ballot...at a special municipal election that occurs not less than 60 days after the order...</p>	<p>Election day: early March</p>

CHARTER AMENDMENT PROCESS AND TIMELINE FOR REDISTRICTING

49-B:5 Charter Amendments, Procedure. –

I. The municipal officers may determine that one or more amendments to the municipal charter are necessary and shall, by order, provide for notice and hearing on them. The notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality at least 7 days prior to the hearing, and shall contain the text of the proposed amendment and a brief explanation. The hearing shall be conducted by the municipal officers or a committee appointed by them. If substantive changes are made to the proposed amendment, a hearing on the modified amendment shall be held. Notice of the hearing and the conduct thereof shall be as provided in this paragraph.

(a) Within 7 days after the last public hearing, the municipal officers or the committee appointed by them shall file with the municipal clerk a report containing the proposed amendment. In the case of a report of an appointed committee, a copy shall be filed with the municipal officers.

(b) Within 7 days after receiving approval from the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the commissioner of the department of revenue administration under RSA 49-B:4-a, the municipal officers may order the proposed amendment to be placed on a ballot at the next regular municipal election. In the case of municipalities with biennial elections, the municipal officers may order amendments to be placed on the ballot at either the next regular municipal election or at a special municipal election that occurs not less than 60 days after the order.

49-B:4-a Review and Approval by State Departments. –

I. The chairman of the charter commission, if any, and otherwise the municipal clerk shall file a report, which shall include the name and address of the clerk and the chairman of the charter commission, with the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the commissioner of the department of revenue administration as follows:

(a) The chairman of the charter commission shall file a copy of the preliminary report relative to any new municipal charter or charter revision at the same time the preliminary report is filed with the municipal clerk pursuant to RSA 49-B:4, VI.

(b) Within 10 days after the filing of the report relative to any charter amendment, if initiated by the municipal officers, the municipal clerk shall file a certified copy of the report.

(c) Promptly after the filing of the petitioners' affidavit relative to a charter amendment, the municipal clerk shall file a certified report consisting of a copy of said affidavit.

(d) Within 14 days of receipt of such report, the secretary of state, the attorney general, and the commissioner of the department of revenue administration shall notify in writing the municipal clerk and the chairman of the charter commission, if any, of his or her receipt. Within 45 days after the receipt of the report the secretary of state, attorney general, and commissioner of the department of revenue administration shall review the proposed charter, charter revision, or charter amendment to insure that it is consistent with the general laws of this state, and shall give notice to the municipal clerk approving or disapproving the proposed charter.

II. If the secretary of state, the attorney general, or the commissioner of the department of revenue administration does not approve, the proposed charter question shall not be placed on the municipal ballot unless the objections to the proposed charter are resolved as provided in this section. If the proposed charter amendment was initiated by a petition, official petition forms shall not be provided. The secretary of state, attorney general, and commissioner of the department of revenue administration shall specify their objections in writing to the municipal clerk, and to the petitioners' committee if relative to a charter amendment initiated by such petitioners' committee, within the period of time allowed for review and shall offer recommendations for changes in language which would correct any inconsistencies they may find in the proposed charter to be voted upon. Failure to specify objections to a proposed charter within 45 days shall constitute approval by the secretary of state, attorney general, or the commissioner of the department of revenue administration.

III. Upon receiving notice of such objections, the charter commission may make such changes as appear necessary and resubmit the proposed charter within 30 days to the official or officials who raised the objections. Such officials shall thereafter make reasonable efforts to review the changes and provide notice of approval or disapproval to the municipal clerk in time to enable the charter commission to file its final report by the deadline stated in RSA 49-B:4-b.

IV. The governing body of the municipality may seek judicial review of a decision of the secretary of state, attorney general, or the commissioner of the department of revenue administration by appeal in superior court, pursuant to RSA 49-B:10, IV.