

RECEIVED ON: January 23, 2023

Council Meeting: 01/24/2023

Agenda Item No. 10

---

**From:** VS <stephanieiswhoiam@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 11:21:17 AM

**To:** Joe Vinatieri <jvcc@bewleylaw.com>; Jessica Martinez <jmartinez@cityofwhittier.org>; Fernando Dutra <fdutra@cityofwhittier.org>; Cathy Warner <cathywarner@earthlink.net>; Octavio Cesar Martinez <omartinez@cityofwhittier.org>; Rigo Garcia <rgarcia@cityofwhittier.org>; Brian Saeki <bsaeki@cityofwhittier.org>

**Subject:** REQUEST FOR COUNCIL TO PLACE CITY COUNCIL TERM LIMITS ON NEXT AGENDA

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of City of Whittier -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear City Council Representatives:

I am proposing term limits for the City of Whittier. It is my belief that having public officials in office for long periods of time impedes free and democratic elections and the opportunity for other city residents to be involved as elected officials. Numerous neighboring cities have term limits. Please see my attached proposal and consider placing this item on the next city agenda. Any other version of this proposal will result in our group submitting a direct measure to the voters for the 2024 election cycle.

Respectfully,

***Stephanie Vallejo***

CC: CM; ACM; CA; Council; Original to CC; Public Binder; Department

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA ADDING SECTION H TO ARTICLE IV OF THE WHITTIER MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPOSE TERM LIMITS ON ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF WHITTIER**

**WHEREAS**, California Government Code section 36502 permits general law cities to adopt an ordinance proposing to limit or repeal existing limits on the number of terms that an elected official may serve, subject to the approval of the voters of the city at a regularly scheduled election;

**WHEREAS**, the Whittier Municipal Code currently does not impose term limits on elected officials of the City;

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of term limits is to promote a free and democratic system of fair elections, and encourage candidates to seek public office by limiting the powers of incumbency;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Election Code section 9222, Government Code section 36502, and the laws relating to general law cities, the Whittier City Council finds it appropriate to amend the City of Whittier Municipal Code and City Charter to place limits on the consecutive terms of office for elected officials, including members of the City Council;

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITTIER DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The City Council for the City of Whittier finds and declares the foregoing are true and correct and incorporates said recitals fully into this Ordinance as substantial findings.

Section 2. Section H, "Notwithstanding any other previously enacted provision of law or of this Chapter, the City Clerk, or other election official authorized by law, shall not accept or verify the signatures on any nomination paper for any person, nor shall he or she certify or place on the list of certified candidates, nor print or cause to be printed on any ballot, ballot pamphlet, sample ballot or ballot label, the name of any person who either:

- (1) Has been elected for twelve years as a member of the City Council and thereafter seeks to become a candidate for City Council, or Mayor
- (2) A full term is 50% or more of the term as defined in the City Charter.
- (3) Term limits applies to any individual who has been either appointed or elected.

"The intent of the Charter Amendment is for it to be retroactive. "

RECEIVED ON: January 23, 2023

Council Meeting: 01/24/2023

Agenda Item No. 10

Section 3. This Ordinance shall become effective on the next election cycle in 2024.

Section 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this ordinance causing it to be posted as required by law.

DRAFT