

Resolution of the 2018 New York City Charter Revision Commission:

Whereas, the 2018 New York City Charter Commission has completed an initial round of public hearings, one in each Borough of the City; and

Whereas, the Commission has heard and accepted written testimony from elected officials and members of the public at these meetings, including the representatives of public interest and advocacy groups, political parties and private citizens; and

Whereas in addition, the Commission has encouraged public comment through a variety of methods, including through its website and through various forms of social media; and

Whereas Commission staff has also solicited comments and ideas from heads of City departments and their personnel; and

Whereas review of the preliminary testimony and comments received by the Commission reflects a wide range of issues of interest to New Yorkers;

Whereas review of such testimony and comments indicates particular and widespread interest in the following issues: various measures to promote meaningful participation in elections, including instant runoff voting and other election reforms; campaign financing reforms; fair representation, including independent redistricting; and broadening and strengthening civic engagement, including examination of the roles of Community Boards;

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Commission invite further discussion and testimony, research and analysis from experts and practitioners on these issues;

And may it be further RESOLVED, that the Commission direct staff to further research and analyze these issues;

And may it be further RESOLVED that the Commission arrange for experts and practitioners in these areas to participate in public panel discussions to be held during the month of June;

And may it be further RESOLVED, that at the conclusion of these discussions, staff shall prepare a report summarizing and analyzing the results of said discussions and other research and containing its preliminary recommendations;

And be it further RESOLVED, that after the release of such preliminary staff report, the Commission shall hold a second round of public hearings, one in each Borough of the City, to solicit public input on such preliminary recommendations.