

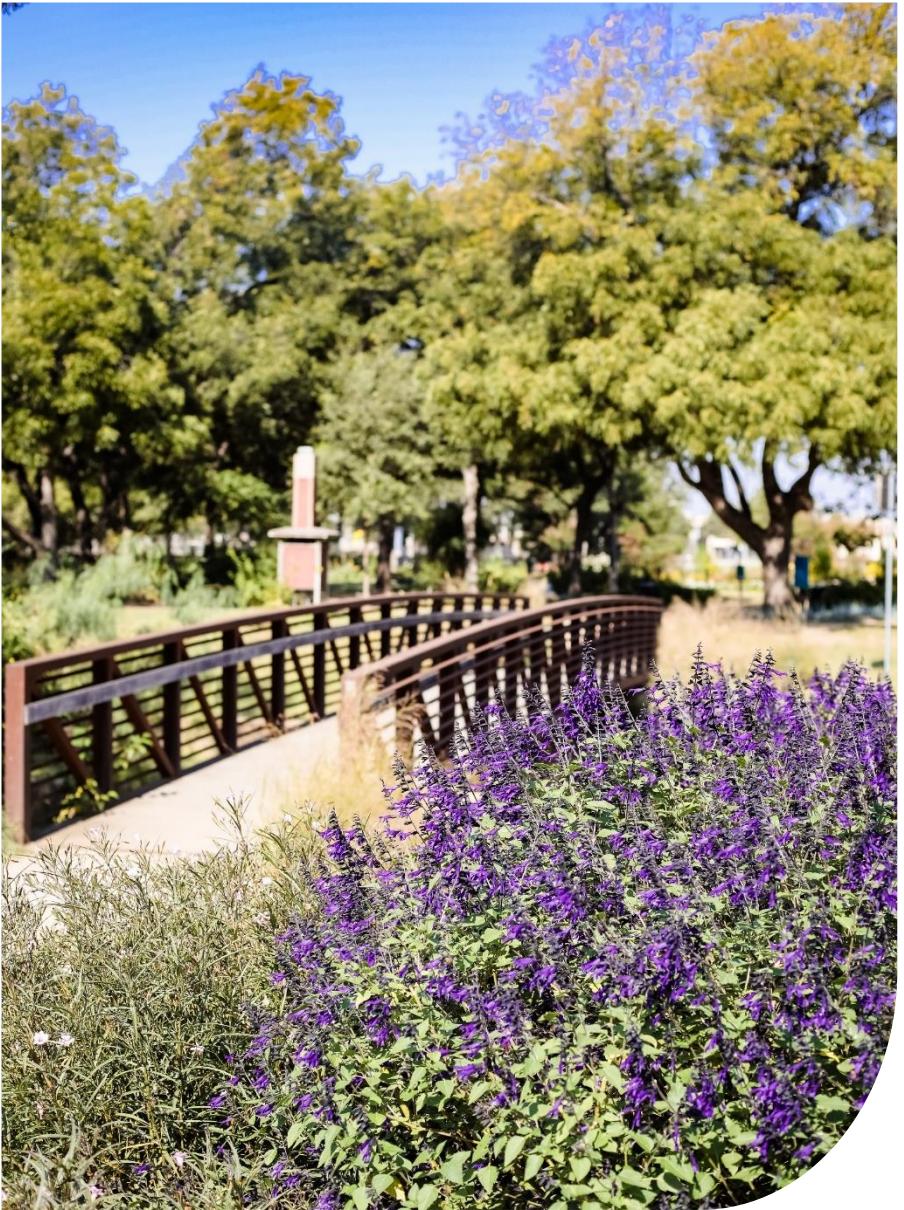


FARMERS BRANCH
TEXAS

Charter Review Committee Topics of Discussion

Study Session Meeting | January 6, 2026

Requested By: Mayor Pro Tem Tina Bennett-Burton



Charter Review Committee Topics of Discussion

Background

- 1 November 18 – Council reinstated Committee and appointed members
- 2 Council submitted topics of discussion for the Committee
- 3 First meeting held December 17 at 6 p.m. where topics were shared with Committee

Submitted Topics

Mayor Terry Lynne

1. City Council Executive Session attendance and use of electronic devices – Councilmembers must be able to attend meetings in person.
2. Holdover Provision – Needs to be revised. As soon as a Councilmember resigns, they should vacate office.
3. Process for requesting agenda items – If Councilmembers want to add or delete items from the meeting agenda, they should do so at a Council meeting in full view of the public.
4. Quorum reduced to three members of Council.
5. Abstentions – Need to clarify language.
6. Use of the City Attorney – Council should consult City Manager and incur no more than \$1,000 in legal fees without approval.
7. Decorum – Provision against frivolous alleged ethics violations being filed against a member of Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Tina Bennett-Burton

1. Reevaluation of Executive Session usage.
2. Discuss Council decorum.
3. Discuss Council accountability.
4. Compare the surrounding cities' Charters and consider updating.
5. Discuss allowing Director-level employees to communicate with Council.
6. Discuss requiring a bid/purchase order webpage.
7. Discuss any future in-house attorneys reporting to Council.
8. Review "Definitions" in the Charter.
9. Mandate annual training for Council.
10. Consider creating an independent Ethics Commission with enforcement oversight.
11. Discuss adding language specific to the hiring of a City Attorney.
12. Provide the Charter Review Committee with Charters from the cities of Haltom City, Hurst, University Park, Coppell, Houston, and San Juan for comparison purposes.

Submitted Topics

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Roger Neal

1. Consider clarifying the language regarding reestablishing a Charter Review Committee and the appointment of members.

Councilmember David Reid

1. Reduction of quorum requirement from four to three.

Councilmember Elizabeth Villafranca

1. Discuss moving elections from May to November.
2. Mandate annual training for Council.

Questions



FARMERS BRANCH
TEXAS