

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 06
WEST LINN, OREGON**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WEST LINN CITY COUNCIL TO SUBMIT A PROPOSED
CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE REGISTERED VOTERS OF THE CITY AT THE
NOVEMBER 5, 2024, ELECTION TO INCREASE THE UPPER LIMIT ON COMPENSATION
PAID TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, Section 11, Salaries of the West Linn City Charter provides an upper limit on compensation for the services of the Mayor and each City Councilor;

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2024, City Council discussed amending the upper limit on compensation specified in the Charter, asked staff to compare Mayor and Councilor compensation for surrounding cities, and directed the Budget Committee to review these comparisons and make a recommendation;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council expressed an interest in increasing the upper limit of Mayor and Councilor compensation to make it easier for any member of the community to serve, not just those with the economic ability to do so;

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2024, the West Linn Budget Committee met, reviewed the compensation for Councilors and the Mayor for eight nearby cities prepared by staff and recommended that the City amend the Charter to increase upper limit on the Mayors compensation to an amount not to exceed \$30,000 per year and the Councilor's compensation to an amount not to exceed \$15,000, with both maximum amounts adjusted annually for inflation; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2024, the City Council voted to submit a proposed Ballot measure on the November 5, 2024, ballot, to amend Section 11 of the West Linn City Charter to increase the upper limit on the Mayor and Councilor's compensation as recommended by the West Linn Budget Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF WEST LINN RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Referral. The ballot title attached in Exhibit A shall be referred to the legal voters of the City of West Linn, Clackamas County, Oregon, at the election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

SECTION 2. Tuesday, November 5, 2024, is designated as the date for holding the election for the purpose of voting on the measure. The precinct for the election shall be all of the territory within the corporate limits of the City of West Linn, and the election will be conducted by the Clackamas County Elections Department by mail.

SECTION 3. The City Elections Officer is directed to publish the notice of receipt of the ballot title in the West Linn Tidings or the Oregonian in compliance with ORS 250.275(5).

SECTION 4. The City Elections Officer shall file the ballot title with the county clerk as required by ORS 254.095 and include the proposed measure in the statement of city measures to be voted on.

SECTION 5. City staff are directed to finalize an Explanatory Statement for the measure and submit it for including in the voter's pamphlet as provided in ORS 251.345, a draft of which is attached as Exhibit B.

SECTION 6. If a majority of eligible voters vote "yes" on the measure, the West Linn City Charter will be amended as follows:

Section 11. Salaries, will have the following language amended to this section:

The compensation for the services of each City officer, employee, Council member and Mayor shall be the amount fixed by the Council. As of January 1, ~~2025~~~~2009~~, this amount shall not exceed \$4,000 ~~\$15,000~~ annually for each Councilor and \$6,400 ~~\$30,000~~ annually for the Mayor. This maximum amount shall be adjusted for inflation annually commencing July 1, 2025, based upon the **Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-W for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for Western Cities** ~~Consumer Price Index for the Portland Metropolitan Area.~~

This resolution was PASSED and ADOPTED this 15th day of July, 2024, and takes effect upon passage.



RORY BIALOSTOSKY, MAYOR

ATTEST:


KATHY MOLLUSKY, CITY RECORDER

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


CITY ATTORNEY

**EXHIBIT A
BALLOT TITLE
(FINAL VERSION WILL BE IN ATTACHED FORM SEL 805)**

CAPTION – 10 words maximum

Amends City Charter regarding limit on Mayor and Councilor compensation

QUESTION – 20 words maximum

Shall the City Charter be amended to increase the upper limit on compensation for the Mayor and City Councilors?

SUMMARY – 175 words maximum

The West Linn Budget Committee met on May 20, 2024, reviewed the compensation for Councilors and the Mayor for eight nearby cities prepared by City staff, examined job duties and responsibilities, and recommended that this measure be placed on the ballot by the City Council for voter decision.

The measure adopts an amendment to the City Charter related to Mayor and City Councilor compensation which, if adopted, would provide:

- The upper limit of compensation for the Mayor shall increase from an annual amount not to exceed \$6,400 to an annual amount not to exceed \$30,000.
- The upper limit on compensation for a Councilor shall increase from an annual amount not to exceed \$4,000 to an annual amount not to exceed \$15,000.
- The maximum amount shall be adjusted for inflation annually based upon the Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-W for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for Western Cities.

EXHIBIT B
PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT – NOVEMBER 5, 2025 ELECTION
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

ELECTION DATE: November 5, 2024

MEASURE NO.

BALLOT TITLE CAPTION: Amends City Charter regarding limit on Mayor and Councilor compensation

ABOUT THIS MEASURE

Amendments to the West Linn City Charter require voter approval. Current Mayor and Council compensation levels are set in and limited by Section 11 of the City Charter. Section 11 currently provides that the annual compensation for the Mayor shall not exceed \$6,400 and that the annual compensation for each Councilor shall not exceed \$4,000, subject to an annual inflation adjustment.

On May 20, 2024, the West Linn Budget Committee met without City Council Members present, reviewed the compensation for Councilors and the Mayor for eight nearby cities prepared by staff and recommended that the City amend the Charter to increase upper limit on the Mayors compensation to an amount not to exceed \$30,000 per year and the Councilor's compensation to an amount not to exceed \$15,000. On July 15, 2024, the West Linn City Council adopted a resolution to place this proposed Charter amendment to the West Linn City Charter on the ballot for voter decision. The proposed amendment would increase the upper limit in the amount of compensation received by the Mayor and City Councilors.

The proposed changes to the Charter are underlined below:

Section 11. Salaries, will have the following language amended to this section:

The compensation for the services of each City officer, employee, Council member and Mayor shall be the amount fixed by the Council. As of January 1, ~~2009~~ 2025, this amount shall not exceed ~~\$4,000~~ \$15,000 annually for each Councilor and ~~\$6,400~~ \$30,000 annually for the Mayor. This maximum amount shall be adjusted for inflation annually, commencing July 1, 2025, based upon the Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI-W for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for Western Cities ~~Consumer Price Index for the Portland Metropolitan Area.~~

Why this Measure is Proposed

The West Linn Budget Committee recommended that this measure be placed on the ballot following an analysis of West Linn elected officials' job duties and other cities' elected official compensation levels. Council's interest in this ballot measure is connected with the desire to make it easier for any member of our community to serve, not only those with the economic ability to do so.

If this Measure is Approved

If voters approved the charter amendment, Mayor and Council salaries shall be capped at the maximum amounts allowed. If voters reject the charter amendment, the amount of Mayor and Councilor salaries will remain at the upper limits currently established by Charter.