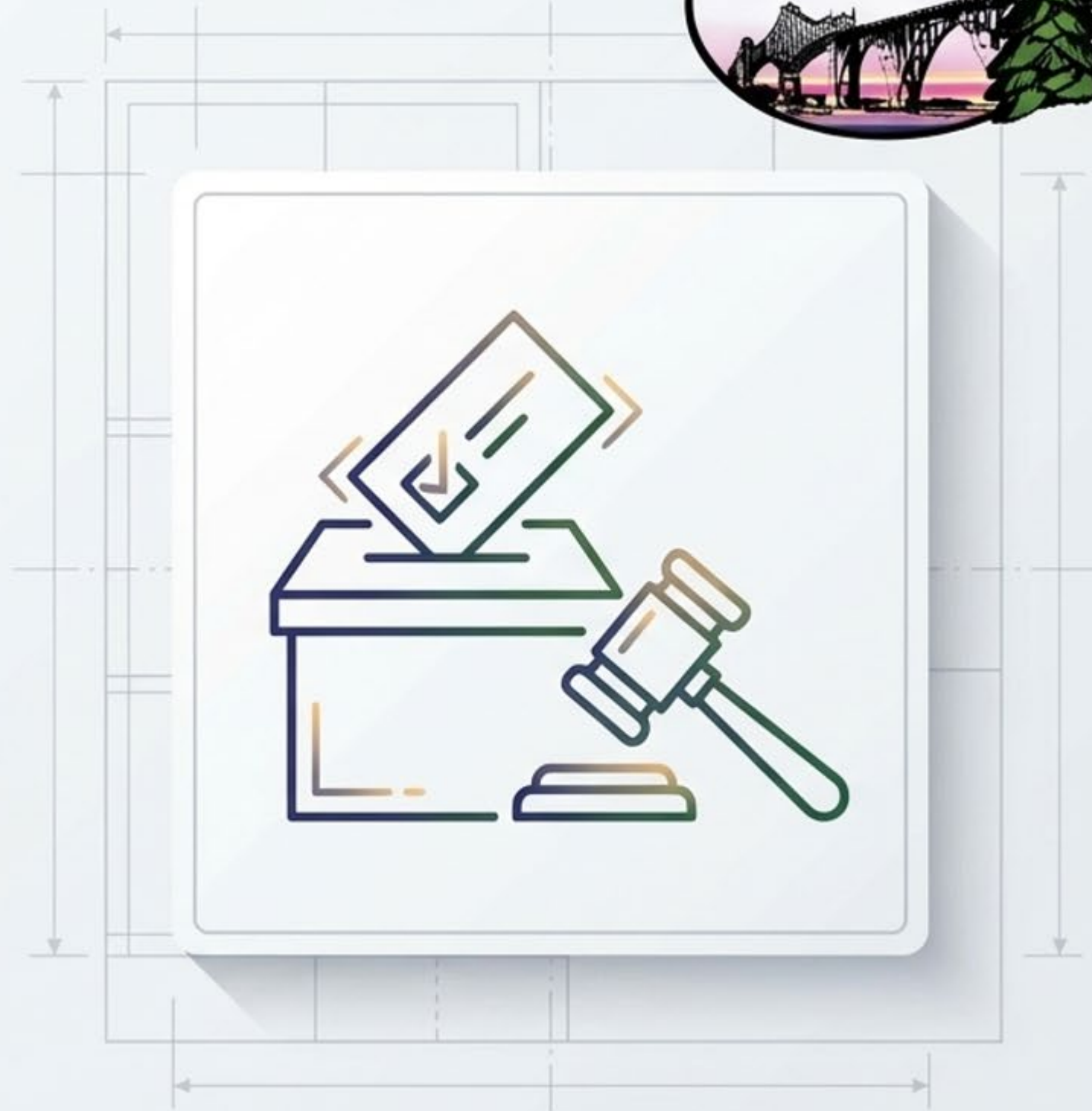




Understanding the 2026 City Charter Amendments

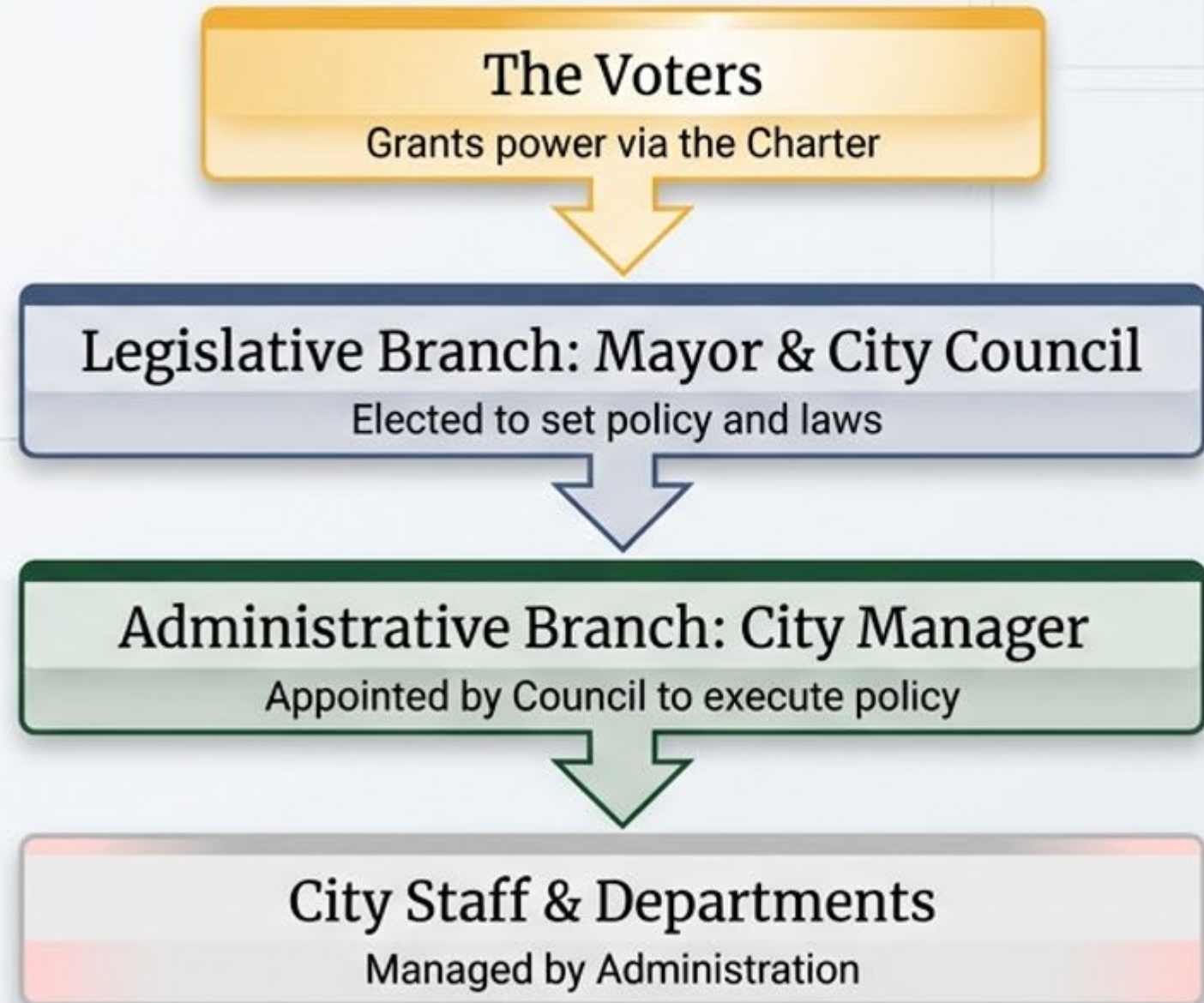
An Objective Voter Guide for
the May 19 Ballot Measure



The Foundation: What is a City Charter?

The City Charter is North Bend's local constitution. It defines the structure, powers, and boundaries of our municipal government.

Anatomy of a City Government



The May 2026 measure asks voters to update specific rules governing the Middle and Lower Tiers of this structure.

6-229

SEL 802

Notice of Measure Election

The Measure at a Glance

March 18, 2026 City of North Bend May 10, 2026

Taking effect July 1, 2026, if approved.

Caption 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.
Measure proposing amendments to the City Charter of North Bend



Pillar 1: Leadership Terms

Extends the Mayor's term of office from two years to four years.



Pillar 2: Administrative Boundaries

Modernizes the top executive title to "City Manager" and updates anti-coercion separation between Council and Administration.



Pillar 3: Council Resilience

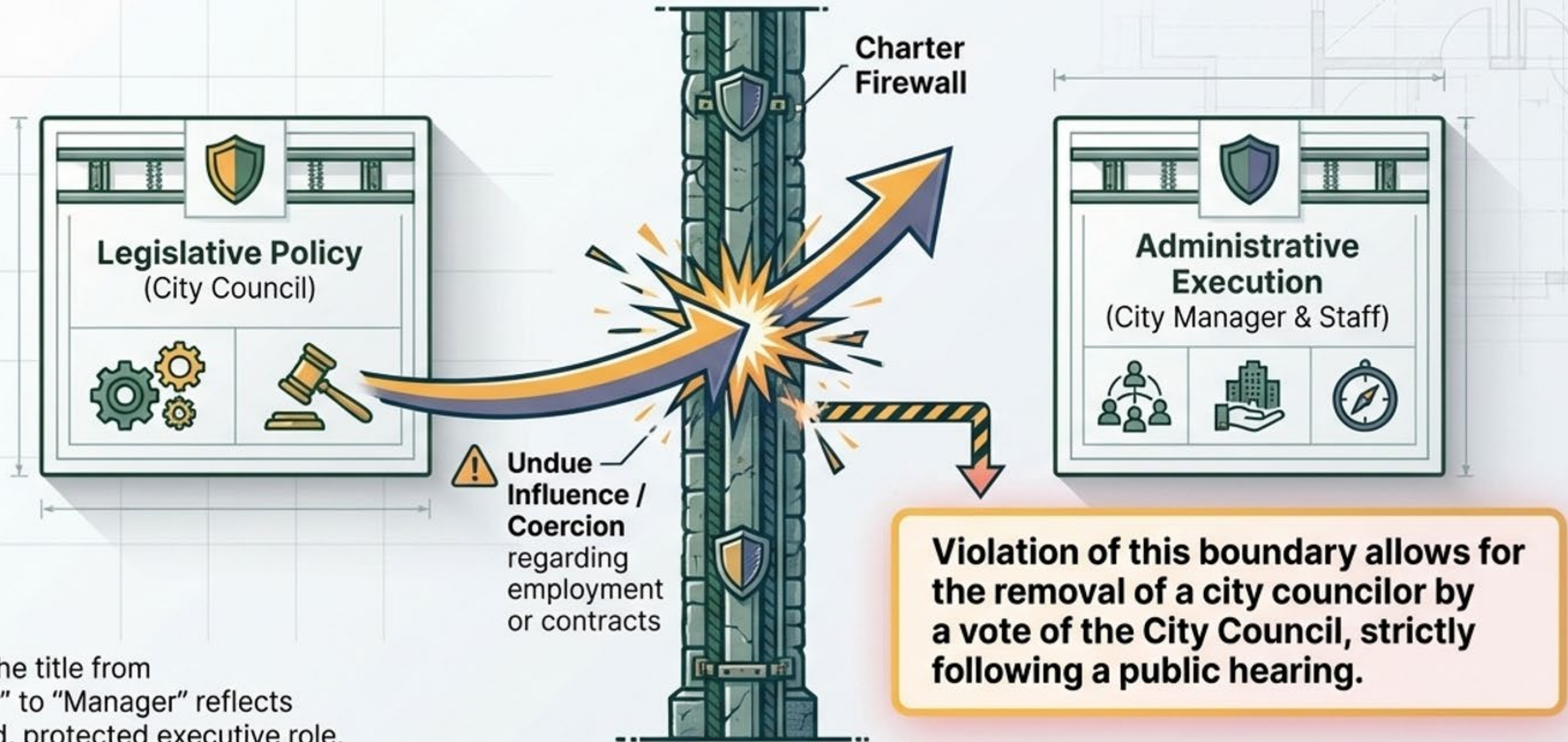
Updates how council vacancies are filled in emergencies and allows council rules to be set by ordinance or resolution.

Current vs. Proposed: The Governance Matrix

	Current Charter	Proposed Measure	Practical Impact
Mayor's Term	2 Years	4 Years	Aligns mayoral elections with typical 4-year election cycles.
Executive Title	City Administrator	City Manager	Modernizes terminology to reflect standard municipal roles.
Separation of Powers	Vague administrative boundaries.	Explicit anti-coercion boundary with removal process.	Protects staff execution from undue political influence.
Council Rules	Rigid procedural requirements.	Established by ordinance or resolution.	Allows faster procedural updates for public meetings.
Filling Vacancies	Gridlock risk if quorum is lost.	Remaining minority can temporarily appoint members.	Ensures continuous city operations during mass vacancies.

Modernizing Administration & Establishing Boundaries

The Anti-Coercion Wall



Modernizing the title from "Administrator" to "Manager" reflects this formalized, protected executive role.

Council Resilience: Preventing Operational Gridlock

The Resilient Quorum Scale

The Problem



Standard Quorum Lost. Under old rules, the city cannot legally conduct business or fill seats, risking county intervention.

The Solution



The Proposed Fix: The remaining minority is granted temporary authority solely to appoint new members until a standard quorum is restored.

The measure also modernizes day-to-day operations by allowing the Council to update its meeting rules via standard ordinance or resolution.

Aligning with Oregon's Modern Standard

These 5 amendments are drawn directly from the Ninth Edition of the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) Model Charter (Dec. 2025).



Insight Box: Recent lawsuits against Oregon cities have targeted vague vacancy rules and undefined administrative boundaries. The 2025 LOC Model Charter explicitly updated these sections.

By adopting this measure, North Bend proactively shields itself from similar legal vulnerabilities by adopting clearly defined anti-coercion protocols and resilient quorum mechanics.

Election Logistics & Ballot Impact

RESOLUTION NO. 3377

The Election



Tuesday, May 19, 2026



Conducted by mail under the direction of the Coos County Clerk.



If passed, changes take effect July 1, 2026.

The Choice

A “Yes” Vote Means: The proposed amendments are adopted, updating mayoral terms, administrative boundaries, and vacancy protocols.

A “No” Vote Means: The current City Charter remains entirely unchanged.

For a complete copy of the proposed Charter amendments and the official resolution, visit www.northbendoregon.gov.