Action Item

Agenda Item No. 8

City Manager's Approval

Report to the Auburn City Council

To:	Mayor and City Council Members
From:	Councilmember Holmes
Prepared by:	Amy M. Lind, Deputy/Assistant City Clerk
Date:	May 9, 2011
Subject:	Ad Hoc City Charter Committee

The Issue

Should the Council Appoint an Ad Hoc City Charter Committee?

Discussion

While we have agreed to have a series of public meetings focused on the possible adoption of a city charter for Auburn, I continue to be concerned about the public perception that a city charter will be developed by an inside group for their own benefit. There has already been a group formed to oppose the city charter plan called AuburnCharterWatch.com. We don't want to go through all the effort to write a proposed city charter to have it defeated at the polls for a perceived lack of public participation.

Proposal

I suggest we ask interested citizens of Auburn to volunteer to be on an ad hoc city charter committee and that the committee be comprised of four appointed citizens and chaired by Councilmember Hanley. The committee could schedule separate hearings in addition to those already scheduled before the City Council. The ad hoc committee can report back to the City Council with a recommendation in time to place the issue on the 2012 ballot.

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