SUBJECT: REQUEST FROM THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR DIRECTION OF REVIEW OF CHARTER PENSION PROVISIONS

SOURCE: City Manager

COMMENT: As formed and charged by the City Council, the Charter Review Committee has been meeting for more than the past month in review of the City's Charter, leading toward making recommendations for potential modifications. Though the Council provided the Committee a broad scope in its review of the Charter, it also directed the Committee to review particular sections of the Charter and other subject areas of particular interest. One such Charter provision the Council directed for review by the Committee was pensions, given the subject of pension reform has been one of great significance across the state and nation, as well as litigation.

Given the broad nature involved in the subject area of public pensions and the scope of reform, as well as the limited time it has to review the Charter and form recommendations, the Committee requests that the Council provide more specific direction as to their review of the Charter pension provision for possible recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council consider the Charter Review Committee's request for more specific direction on its review of the City's Charter pension provision.

ATTACHMENT: City Charter Section 58: Pensions
Sec. 58. Pensions.

The council shall have and is hereby granted full power and authority to establish, regulate, maintain, revise and amend, a retirement, disability, death benefit and pension system, or either or any of them, for its elective and appointive officers and employees of the city of Porterville and their dependents. Authority and power is hereby vested in the city of Porterville, its council, its officers, agents and employees to do and perform any act or exercise any authority granted, permitted or required whereby the city of Porterville may fully participate in a retirement, disability, death benefit and pension system for its employees.

A system for retirement, disability, death benefit and pension rights for employees and their dependents authorized by this section when established by the council, shall not be terminated without securing the approval of a majority of the electors of the city of Porterville at an election held therefor. (4-6-1971)

The city shall levy and collect taxes sufficient to pay all costs and expenses required to be paid by the city of Porterville to enable the city of Porterville to participate in any such retirement, disability, death benefit or pension system established, set up or maintained by, for or on behalf of the city of Porterville and the limitations of section forty-three of the charter of the city of Porterville, with respect to levying and collecting of municipal taxes, shall not apply to any tax authorized by this article. (4-9-1951; 4-10-1961)

Amendment note _ The second paragraph of § 58 was amended April 6, 1971, by eliminating the former first sentence pertaining to employees of the Porterville public library.