Article XIX CRAC Subcommittee Report

The proposed Stockton Municipal Code Title 19 must be read in conjunction with this proposal to understand the Charter Article XIX amendments.

Items that are subject to periodic change, due to change in State law, fiscal circumstances or other reasons, were removed from the Charter and placed in the Municipal Code in order that they may be changed without the need for a City Charter amendment vote.

The purpose of the Charter is to outline the governance of the City. Operations which are subject to change belong in the Municipal Code.

Sec 1903 & 1904. Capital Improvement Program is removed from Charter and placed in the Municipal Code. Section 1903 becomes Reserves. This establishes a reserve policy in the Charter; however, how it operates is in the Municipal Code.

Secs. 1904 through 1911 are the previously numbered Secs 1905 – 1912.

New Secs. 1904 through 1906. Stockton has a Council-Manager form of governance. The budget sections of the Charter as amended in 2000 created a convoluted budget process that was essentially impossible to comply with. This amendment returns the Charter to language that is functional and attainable.

New Sec. 1907 Cleans up language. The second paragraph sentence is moved to the end of new Sec. 1906 where it more appropriately belongs.

New Sec. 1908 outlines Control of Expenditures by the City Manager; however, it does it with simpler less arcane language and does not change the function of this section.

New Sec. 1909 recognizes that there will be a period of time after the close of a fiscal year before an annual financial statement can be available.

New Sec. 1910 clarifies and adds to the Annual Audit.

New Sec. 1911 removes the word "biennially" from paragraph (d) to conform with the changes in Article IV, Sec. 410 that sets Council and Mayor salaries.

Word Count: 303

Argument in Favor

Stockton has a Council-Manager form of governance. The budget section of the Charter as amended in 2000 created a convoluted budget process that was essentially impossible to comply with. The purpose of the Charter is to outline the governance of the City. Operations which are subject to change belong in the Municipal Code. This amendment returns the Charter to language that is functional and attainable.

Word Count: 65

Dale Stocking, Chair Article XIX CRAC Subcommittee