

1 **Updating Requirements for Publication of the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis**  
2 For the purpose of removing outdated provisions of the City’s Charter; rewriting requirements  
3 for compiling and publishing the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis; allowing for  
4 publishing paper or electronic versions of the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis; and  
5 generally related to the codification of charter amendments and ordinances.  
6  
7

8 **City Council of the**  
9 **City of Annapolis**

10 **Charter Amendment 1-26**

11 **Introduced by: Mayor Littmann**  
12 **Co-sponsored by:**  
13

14 **Referred to:** Rules and City Government Committee  
15

16 **A CHARTER AMENDMENT** concerning

17 **Updating Requirements for Publication of the Charter and Code of the City**  
18 **of Annapolis**

19 **FOR** the purpose of removing outdated provisions of the City’s Charter; rewriting  
20 requirements for compiling and publishing the Charter and Code of the City of  
21 Annapolis; allowing for publishing paper or electronic versions of the Charter and Code  
22 of the City of Annapolis; and generally related to the codification of charter amendments  
23 and ordinances.  
24

25 **BY** repealing and reenacting with amendments the following portions of the Charter and  
26 Code of the City of Annapolis, 2026 Edition: **Article IX, Section 6 of The Charter**  
27

28 **WHEREAS,** The City of Annapolis Charter, as the foundational governing document of the  
29 municipal corporation, establishes the framework for transparent and accountable  
30 local government; and  
31

32 **WHEREAS,** Traditional methods of charter maintenance and publication, which rely on  
33 periodic printed editions and static documentation, do not adequately serve the  
34 needs of residents, businesses, and city officials who require timely access to  
35 current charter provisions and ordinances; and  
36

37 **WHEREAS,** Modern digital platforms, which the City uses for charter amendment and  
38 ordinance codification, provide continuous, real-time updates to municipal codes

---

**Explanation Note:** ~~Strikethrough~~ indicates matter stricken from existing law.  
Underlining & black means copyediting or reformatting of the existing Charter section  
Underlining & red means new matter added to the Charter.

1 and charters, ensuring that the public has immediate access to the most current  
2 and accurate legal framework governing the City; and  
3

4 **WHEREAS,** Modernizing the City’s Charter’s publication requirements to explicitly recognize  
5 digital platforms as official repositories of the City’s legal framework represents a  
6 necessary evolution in municipal governance that serves the best interests of all  
7 Annapolis residents and stakeholders.  
8

9 **SECTION I: BE IT ESTABLISHED AND ORDAINED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY**  
10 **COUNCIL** that the City Charter of the City of Annapolis shall be amended to read as follows:  
11

## 12 THE CHARTER

### 13 Article IX - Miscellaneous Provisions

#### 14 Section 6. ~~Codification of ordinances.~~

- 15
- 16 ~~(a) The city council shall provide for the codification or recodification of the ordinances of the~~  
17 ~~city no less than once every ten (10) years, in permanently bound or looseleaf form.~~
- 18 ~~(b) Any such codification or recodification may be adopted by reference by a single ordinance,~~  
19 ~~without further publication of such codification or recodification or any portions thereof.~~  
20 ~~The ordinance adopting such codification or recodification shall comply with all laws of~~  
21 ~~Maryland and any provision of this Charter as to adoption of ordinances.~~
- 22 ~~(c) Supplements for any such codification or recodification shall be prepared no less than~~  
23 ~~annually at the direction of the city council, either as a unit or on a replacement page basis;~~  
24 ~~provided, that where replacement pages are prepared, a distinguishing mark or notation~~  
25 ~~shall be placed on each replacement page to distinguish it from original pages and pages of~~  
26 ~~other supplements. No further adoption procedure shall be required for a supplement in~~  
27 ~~which no substantive change is made in ordinances validly adopted by the city council. If~~  
28 ~~changes, alterations, amendments, deletions or additions of a substantive nature are made in~~  
29 ~~any such supplement, then such supplement shall be adopted by the city council in the same~~  
30 ~~manner provided in this section for the adoption of codifications and recodifications.~~
- 31 ~~(d) At least one (1) copy of any codification or recodification adopted hereunder and at least~~  
32 ~~one (1) copy of every supplement thereto shall be kept in the office of law and shall be~~  
33 ~~available for inspection during normal business hours.~~

#### 34

#### 35 Section 6. Publication of the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis

##### 36 (a) Codification of Charter Amendments and Ordinances.

- 37 1) An "Ordinance" shall mean a legislative enactment of general applicability with  
38 continuing force and effect as law within the City of Annapolis.

- 2) Any charter amendment or ordinance for codification or recodification must comply with all Maryland laws and any provisions of this Charter regarding the adoption of charter amendments or ordinances.
- 3) Such charter amendments and ordinances shall be compiled to form the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis.

**(b) Publication Requirements.**

- 1) The exact text of any amendment or amendments to the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis adopted shall thereafter be included in any subsequent edition or codification of the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis, until altered, modified, or repealed by a subsequent amendment or amendments to the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis.
- 2) The City Clerk, in conjunction with the Office of Law, shall be responsible for the preparation and publication of all changes to the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis.
- 3) Any publication update shall include:
  - i. All charter amendments and ordinances that are currently in effect; and
  - ii. All charter amendments and ordinances that have been enacted or amended since the last publication of the Charter and Code of the City of Annapolis.

**SECTION II: BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that pursuant to Local Government Article § 4-304(a)(2) of the Annotated Code of Maryland:

1. The City Council conducted a public hearing on the proposed charter amendment on [Date].
2. Notice of the public hearing regarding the proposed charter amendment was published on [Date], providing residents of the City of Annapolis with at least 21 days' advance notice.

**SECTION III: AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the City Clerk shall, in accordance with Local Government Article § 4-304(b) of the Maryland Code as Annotated:

1. Post an exact copy of the charter amendment at City Hall for 40 days following the adoption of this Charter Amendment;
2. Publish a fair summary of the proposed amendment in a newspaper with general circulation at least four times, at weekly intervals, within 40 days after the Charter Amendment is adopted; and
3. Maintain proof that the requirements were carried out and provide the information required by the Maryland Department of Legislative Services.

**SECTION IV: BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that this Charter Amendment will take effect *50 days after its adoption* unless a petition for a

---

**Explanation Note:** ~~Strikethrough~~ indicates matter stricken from existing law.  
Underlining & black means copyediting or reformatting of the existing Charter section  
Underlining & red means new matter added to the Charter.

1 referendum on the proposed amendment is submitted to the City Council in accordance with  
2 Local Government Article § 4-304(c) of the Maryland Code as Annotated.

3  
4

---

**Explanation Note:** ~~Strikethrough~~ indicates matter stricken from existing law.  
Underlining & black means copyediting or reformatting of the existing Charter section  
Underlining & red means new matter added to the Charter.