

GET Committee

From: Mark Hyde <HYDEM001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2020 11:23 AM
To: GET Committee
Subject: Testimony re Agenda Item GET-10(7)

- **OPPOSE 4 YEAR TERMS - BUT SUPPORT RETAINING TWO YEAR TERMS.**
- **SUPPORT ABSOLUTE TERM LIMITS - NO SITTING ON THE BENCH AND COMING BACK FOR MORE**
- **UPON ADOPTION TREAT EVERYONE THE SAME: ALL TIME SERVED, WHETHER IN OFFICE NOW OR EARLIER, CHARGED AGAINST THE 10 YEAR LIMIT. SEE EXCEPTION BELOW.**
- **SUPPORT A BALLOT MEASURE WITH THESE MODIFICATIONS.**

TWO YEAR TERMS, NOT FOUR

In reference to GET Agenda Item 10(7) I do not support 4 year terms for council members but do support an absolute limit on the number of 2 year terms a council member may serve, whether consecutive or not.

Two year terms (versus four) tie council members to campaign promises + support greater accountability to the electorate. Four year terms would weaken voter power - the wrong direction in this fast paced and challenging environment.

ABSOLUTE LIMIT OF 10 YEARS ON THE COUNCIL

An absolute term limit of five 2 year terms, consecutive or not, is critical to creating and maintaining a vibrant, fresh and responsive council and will promote greater discussion of issues and assessment of incumbent performance versus re-election of candidates largely based on name recognition and developed patronage. See transitional exception below.

TRANSITION

Upon adoption of this charter amendment, all time previously served on the council, whether in office now or not, shall be counted toward the absolute 10 year limit. This would treat everyone alike and advance the voters best interests. Exception: if in November 2020 any newly elected candidate would be automatically termed out due to past service, allow for 1 additional 2 year term to be served but not more.

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