

***CORRECTION:** In a recent charter review forums release an incorrect date was noted for the first charter review forum. The forums will be held on Sept. 20 and Nov. 1.

Agendas set for charter review forums Jim Clinton and Victor Chudowsky to open series Forum registration now available online!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEND, Aug. 30, 2016—Agendas are set and registration is now available for a two-part charter review forum series hosted this fall by Bend 2030, the Bend Chamber of Commerce and City Club of Central Oregon.

The two forums—focused on education and public input regarding Bend’s city governance structure—will offer presentations from speakers at the state, regional and local level who will share insights on an important question facing Bend: **Does our current governance structure offer our citizens the best leadership possible for addressing our complicated population, housing, transportation and livability issues?**

The two forums will specifically feature educational presentations and public input opportunities on core charter review questions such as:

- Do residents from all parts of Bend feel represented by the current method of electing councilors at-large?
- Is it time for Bend’s mayor to be elected or continue to be appointed by fellow councilors?
- Do city councilors have the right support structure and pay in order to do their job well?

At the first forum on Sept. 20, **Mayor Jim Clinton and Councilor Victor Chudowsky** will kick-off the series with a presentation on how their council experience has led them both to become strong advocates of charter review. Then **League of Oregon Cities General Counsel Sean O’Day** will speak on governance models around the state, and the pros and cons of the important charter review questions noted above. Rounding out the educational offerings, **former Bend mayor Oran Teater** will share the history of Bend’s charter development and his insights on the process from his own involvement in previous charter review processes.

The Sept. 20 forum will conclude **with participants working in small groups to identify the key public input questions that should be addressed** in any charter review process. A report of the presentations and public input given at the first meeting will be published ahead of the second forum on Nov. 1.

At the second forum, **Central Oregon regional government expert Rick Allen** will refresh the conversation with a review of the various governance models being used in our region along with the benefits and drawbacks he has experienced with each. **Participants will spend the rest of the forum providing their own input** on the questions established at the first forum as well as how a charter review process could best be structured in Bend. A report of the findings from the second forum will also be published.

The two **forum reports will be shared with the Bend City Council** early next year by a team of forum participants.

Registration for the forums is strongly encouraged as space is limited to 150 participants at each event. **Go to Bend2030.org to register** for free to attend. Refreshments will also be served at no cost.

EVENT DETAILS:

Charter Review Forum One
5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20
Central Oregon Collective
62070 27th Street, in Bend

Charter Review Forum Two
5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1
Central Oregon Collective
62070 27th Street, in Bend