

SURVEY: CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM LOCAL GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

1. The City of Winston-Salem currently has eight single-member districts (referred to as wards). City Council Members in wards are elected only by voters within their ward. The mayor is elected at-large. At-large elected officials are elected by all voters in the city. Do you think having additional members elected at-large would be beneficial for carrying out City business?
 - There should be more at-large representation on the City Council
 - There should not be more at-large representation on the City Council

If at-large members were added to the City Council, please select the most desirable option from the following scenarios:

- 8 members elected from wards, 2 members elected at-large, 1 mayor elected at-large
- 6 members elected from wards, 2 members elected at-large, 1 mayor elected at-large
- 5 members elected from wards, 3 members elected at-large, 1 mayor elected at-large

Please provide comments to your responses to question #1.

2. City Council Members are currently elected to four-year terms. Do you think Council Members should be elected every two years or every four years?
 - Council Members should be elected every two years
 - Council Members should be elected every four years

Please provide comments to your response to question #2.

3. City Council Members are currently all elected at the same time. Do you believe City Council Members should have staggered terms, meaning half of the Council is elected every four years?
 - Council Members should be elected on staggered terms
 - Council Members should all be elected at the same time

Please provide comments to your response to question #3.

4. City Council Members are currently elected in even years at the same time as many State and National elections. Do you believe City Council elections should take place in odd years?
 - Council Members should be elected in odd years
 - Council Members should be elected in even years

Please provide comments to your response to question #4.

5. City Council elections are currently carried out on a partisan basis, meaning that political affiliation (Republican, Democrat, etc.) is shown on the ballot and that partisan primaries take place in advance of the general election. Do you think City Council elections should be non-partisan in nature?

- City Council elections should be done on a non-partisan basis
- City Council elections should be done with the political affiliation on the ballot

Please provide comments to your response to question #5.

6. Currently, the Mayor only votes to break a tie. Should the Mayor be required to vote on all action items before the City Council?

- The Mayor should vote on all items before the City Council
- The Mayor should only vote to break a tie

Please provide comments to your response to question #6.

7. Currently, the Mayor is elected at-large by all voters of the city. Do you think the Mayor should be elected by the voters or appointed by the City Council?

- The Mayor should be selected by City Council from within its own membership
- The Mayor should be elected at-large by the voters

Please provide comments to your response to question #6.

8. Please provide any additional comments or feedback.

Thank you for time taking to fill out this short survey. Your feedback will be provided to the Local Governance Study Commission.