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**FOR RELEASE: Immediate**

*Ridgefield, CT; March 20, 2023;* -- First Selectman Rudy Marconi will be presenting the Board of Selectmen's suggestions for charter changes at the next Charter Revision Commission meeting on Thursday, March 23, 6:30 PM, at the Town Hall Annex. Also speaking to the commission that evening will be the chairs of the Affordable Housing Committee, Insurance & Risk Management Committee, the Commission for Accessibility, and Planning & Zoning Commission. A complete agenda and minutes from past meetings are posted on the [town website](#). The first part of the meeting is designated for public comment, offering residents the opportunity to express their ideas and effect change on how our town is governed. Residents may also [send emails](#) ([crc@ridgefieldct.org](mailto:crc@ridgefieldct.org)) or letters with written suggestions to the Commission (Ridgefield Town Hall, 440 Main St.).

The Commission is soliciting input for charter changes from residents and members of town boards, commissions, committees, and agencies throughout March and April. It will consider and evaluate these proposals, and then publish a draft of proposed changes. Residents can comment on those proposals during public hearings in May. The commission will then present a final report to the Board of Selectmen. Following selectmen approval, residents will vote on proposed changes in November's election.

### **About Charter Revision**

The Town Charter is comparable to a state's constitution or an organization's by-laws. Because it defines the basic authorities and operating rules of the town, it directly affects each resident. State law determines how and when the town's charter can be changed.

Charter changes run the gamut from significant shifts in the structure of town government to small edits that clarify wording. In the last charter revision cycle, proposed changes included separating the Inland Wetlands Board from the Planning and Zoning Commission, which was approved by voters.

To read the charter, or for more information on the current commission or past charter changes, go to the [town's website](#). For reminders of upcoming charter revision public hearings, sign up for 'general government notifications' on [Ridgefield Alerts](#).

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