

JOHN R EDDINGS

Age: 66

Education: BS 1965 Hampton University, Hampton, VA

Felony Convictions: NO

Campaign Website: <http://EddingsForCharterCommission.wordpress.com>

Campaign Contact Number: 313-505-5651

What do you consider to be your relevant experience that qualifies you to be a Charter Commissioner?

Dedicated with experience & integrity. More than 30 years of government experience at all levels. Former Detroit City Ombudsman 1995 - 2004. Former Macomb County Ombudsman January, 2005 - January, 2006. As Ombudsman, I had to work with the Charter each day. I know how Detroit Government works and how it is supposed to work.

How do you feel about Detroit's current "strong mayor" system of government?

I support the Strong Mayor concept. However, there are areas when the power of the mayor needs also to have the approval of City Council. The best example is in the creation, consolidation and/or elimination of Departments. Council needs a say because of budget concerns and abuse of this allows the Mayor to increase the number of his appointees.

How do you think we should change the City Charter to improve the Ethics and Accountability of our elected and appointed city officials?

I am not a lawyer so some of my comments may conflict with state law. The ethics language in the Charter and the ethics ordinance approved by City Council must be revised to make the language stronger and more clear as to what is a conflict of interest and or an ethics violation and set forth penalties. Authority to act to remove the offending party after an investigation and hearing must be included.

Do you favor electing City Council by districts? If NO - Why? If YES -What kind of district structure do you foresee?

I personally favor a combination of three (3) at large and six (6) districts. I believe that all at large will fail to give the citizens the accountability they deserve. I also believe that all districts will fail to provide adequate accountability for city wide concerns. Also, all districts may allow the Mayor to play off one district against another.

This information was submitted online by candidates or official designees and coordinated by Publius.org and The Detroit League of Women Voters. There were no fees involved. If you have any questions or are a candidate that would like to submit information, please contact **Publius.org** (313) 254-4754.

What should be the guiding principles under which Charter Commission should identify, deliberate, and address issues?

Individuals serving on the Charter Commission must bring a thorough knowledge of municipal government, be committed, dedicated and focused on the unintended consequences of any Charter change and must always keep the best interests of current and future citizens of Detroit in mind. Everything else will be determined by the operational structure that the Charter commission members establish.