

## Clark County Home Rule Charter Report Card

Group being reviewed: Clark County Council

Reviewer: Clark County citizens monitoring the Home Rule Charter's implementation.

Date: April 1, 2015

| Element/ Charter Section   | Grades by Quarter |                 |                 |                 |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|  | 1 <sup>st</sup>   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 4 <sup>th</sup> |
| <b>Charter Implementation Work Plan</b>  | I                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Separation of Powers</b> (Executive and Legislative Branches; Articles 2 and 3)   | D-                |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>County Code Revisions (10.8)</b>  | N                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Code Amendments to incorporate new rights of Initiative and Referendum</b> (Charter Article 7; CCC 1.04.010, Clark County designated as a second-class county, no longer valid under state law) | F                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Appointments to Boards and Commissions</b> (Section 2.4)  | C                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Preparation for two new councilors</b>  | I                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Appointment of Acting County Manager (3.2)</b>  | A-                |                 |                 |                 |

Grading based on **Quantity, Quality, and Relationships.**

A = Excellent, B = Good, C = Fair, D = Poor, F = Failing

I = Incomplete, N = Needs Improvement

### General Comments

Quarter 1: the Council seems to be distracted into spending more time on other subjects rather than focusing on implementation of the Charter, including an attempt to codify the organization of administrative departments, two attempts at posting a motto in the hearing room, and debating what font to put on the hearing room wall. The separation of powers provision in the Charter is not being respected, with a Councilor inserting a new Comprehensive Plan alternative without involvement of appropriate staff and uploading files to "The Grid" without appropriate approvals. While the Councilors have made a number of appointments to Boards and Commissions, there were still 18 vacancies left to be filled as of March 1, 2015. Despite clear separation of powers between Executive and Legislative branches, there is still evidence that council members are meeting directly with county staff (Comprehensive Plan) without notification of, and authorization from, the Acting County Manager. Other than a retreat in January 2015, there is no formal work plan in place to prepare for and implement Charter provisions during 2015, including space remodeling to accommodate two new councilors in 2016. We are expecting greatly improved performance for Quarter 2. An example of this is the new "Definitions" part of The Grid, while still needing work, is a positive sign.