

PHILADELPHIA 3.0

The case for term limits #2: People serve for way too long Term Limits keep Council on task

FACT: At the start of 2015, SEVEN Councilmembers had already served over 12 years, and unsurprisingly tough policy choices have been deferred over that time.

Philadelphia 3.0 believes twelve years is plenty of time to be on City Council.

City Council elections are supposed to be a representative process, not a lifetime appointment! When Councilmembers do not intend to leave, they avoid tough decisions, and taxpayers suffer.

The downfall of the Municipal Pension is a great example - 2003 was the first year that Philadelphia failed to meet 100% of its Pension obligations, a now recurring practice that has exacerbated the current Pension Crisis. Twelve years later, with many of those same Councilmembers still in office from 2003, Council has done nothing to fix the PENSION CRISIS.

What has Council looked like over the last 12 years?

Not much has changed on City Council over the last twelve years. SEVEN seats have been occupied by the same person. SEVEN seats have been occupied by two people. And only THREE seats have been occupied by three different people. When the faces don't change, why would the outcomes?

How far as the Municipal Pension plummeted since 2003?

Twelve years ago the UAL (Unfunded Actuarial Liability) of the Municipal Pensions was \$2.6 billion, payments to which accounted for 7% of the City Budget. Today, the UAL of the Municipal Pension has more than doubled, hitting \$5.7 billion, payments to which are now 15% of the entire City Budget. This trend will only continue with no end in sight.

What does that mean for you?

The inability of City Council to take on meaningful reform to stop the Municipal Pension crisis is a perfect example of what happens when Councilmember serve too long - nothing changes. But when they pass the buck on something as huge as the Municipal PENSION CRISIS, it eats so deeply into the City Budget that cutting essential services and increasing taxes are the new normal.

SOLUTION: Term Limits keep Council on task

If people serve for way too long, what is the natural solution? Philadelphia 3.0 proposes a 3-Term Limit on City Council. Twelve years is plenty of time to affect an agenda for change and it is certainly enough time to do serious damage - look how far the Municipal Pension has come. We need to hold Councilmembers accountable to specific policy goals, not let them run for a lifetime appointments.

Join the Movement



VOTE FOR City Council Democratic At Large: #84 Derek Green, #88 Tom Wyatt, #98 Isaiah Thomas

#changethecharter