CITY OF JOPLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

ITEM:
Council Bill No. 2026-004 – AN ORDINANCE submitting to the electors of the City of Joplin, Missouri, at a General Municipal Election, to be held on April 7, 2026, proposed Charter Amendment No. 1, reducing the number of signatures required for a nominating petition for council seats.

MEETING DATE
January 20, 2026

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT
Legal Department

ATTACHMENTS
Council Bill No. 2026-004

REVIEWED BY
City Attorney Peter Edwards; City Clerk Holly Nagy; and City Manager Nicholas Edwards.

SUMMARY
This Council Bill amends the City Charter to reduce the number of signatures required for a nominating petition for council seats.

BACKGROUND
The City Council appointed a nine (9) member Charter Review Commission by Resolution No. 2025-009 on September 15, 2025, charging the Commission with reviewing certain sections of the City's Charter. The Charter Commission met several times over the last several months and presented their findings to the City Council on January 5, 2026. The City Council has approved placing two (2) of the Commission's recommendations on the April 7, 2026 ballot.

Charter Amendment No. 1 is this Council Bill No. 2026-004. It submits the question of whether or not the Charter should be amended to reduce the number of signatures required for a nominating petition for council seats from one hundred fifty (150) to fifty (50) for general council seats and from one hundred fifty (150) to fifty (50) for zone council seats with twenty-five (25) signatures from within the candidate's zone.

FUNDING SOURCE
N/A

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends this Council Bill be approved on emergency basis.