

**DUKES COUNTY CHARTER STUDY COMMISSION  
WORKGROUP ON ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

**OUTLINE OF POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS – PART III (REVISED)**

**Should DCCSC make recommendations regarding the County’s relationship with other regional organizations such as the MV Commission, Island Schools, MV Transportation Authority, MV Refuse District, MV Housing Authority, and other activities that might be more efficiently provided on a regional basis. If so, what should they be? – 12**

Options/Potential Recommendations:

- In an effort to ensure that the County Commission has a direct understanding of the county’s needs for regional collaboration and its potential supporting role:
    - Create the expectation that each County Commissioner will have a liaison responsibility between the County Commission and one or more regional organizations within a given functional area of public interest, including:
      - Planning (MVC)
      - Affordable Housing (MV Housing Authority)
      - Water Protection (including Waste Water Management)
      - Solid Waste Management
      - Business/Economic Development (including Agriculture)
      - Energy
      - Transportation (including the Airport and the Steamship)
      - Public Safety
      - Health & Human Services (DCHC) and
      - Education
- RECOMMENDED
- Longer term, facilitate the creation of an All-Island “Roundtable” made up of representatives from the functional areas listed above, in order to improve the understanding of the county’s needs for regional collaboration. RECOMMENDED
- With respect to the Martha’s Vineyard Commission, specifically:
  - Conduct joint meetings of all MVC and DCC Commissioners at least annually and regular joint meetings of MVC and DCC staff for the purpose of identifying issues of mutual interest, including possible sharing of services. RECOMMENDED
  - Participate in an analysis of the services currently delivered by the County, by other Island-wide or multi-town public entities, by towns, and by non-profit organizations, as well as best practices off-Island, in order to identify criteria that can be used to determine which entity is best placed to deliver specific services, including the possible transfer of existing services. This analysis could be one of the initial assignments of the All-Island Roundtable. RECOMMENDED

**REVISED: Should the DCCSC recommend changes to the residency requirements be recommended of the County Manager or the County Administrator under the County Manager or the Board Chair forms of government?**

Note: Chapter 34a states that the county manager and the county administrator must become a resident of the county, unless waived by the commissioners. Should that waiver be suspended?

Options/Potential Recommendations:

- In both cases the waiver should not be granted. **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**

**NEW: Should the DCCSC recommend special legislation that would amend the current term of office of the DCC County Manager by striking from the current DCC Charter the language “to serve for an indefinite term” and replace it with language that would establish limits to the County Manager’s term of office?**

Options/Potential Recommendations:

- Special legislation, applicable only to Dukes County, should be secured with the following provisions:
  - The title of County Manager should be changed to Executive Administrator
  - The terms of employment should be governed by an employment contract, renewable annually, and
  - The Executive Administrator should serve at the pleasure of the County Commission.
  - There should be no waiver of the residency requirement after the Executive Administrator’s initial probationary period.

**RECOMMENDED**

**Should the DCCSC recommend special legislation mandating a periodic Charter Study Commission to review the Country Charter?**

**How often? – 9**

NOTE: This recommendation could either become a recommendation to be incorporated into the County’s Administrative Code or become an act of the legislature initiated by the Charter Study Commission.

Options/Potential Recommendations:

- Special Legislation should be secured that would mandate a Charter Study Commission every eight to ten years. **RECOMMENDED**
- The number of elected Commissioners should be limited to one more than the number of County Commissioners. For example, if the Dukes County Commission has 5 Commissioners, the size of the Charter Study Commission should be limited to 11 members, of which 6 would be elected at large. **RECOMMENDED**