OPTION I :: 4-year Mayor and Council Terms (4-year cycle)

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Mayor				Mayor				Mayor				Mayor
	Council 1*		Council 1				Council 1				Council 1		
Council 2				Council 2				Council 2				Council 2	

PROS	CONS
~No election cost 25% of the time (1 of every 4 years)	~* Adjustment phase for Council 1 to get off Mayoral cycle; 1 two-year term
~Increased continuity all around	followed by four-year terms thereafter
~Level playing field :: everyone plays by the same rules	

OPTION II :: 3-year Mayor and Council Terms (3-year cycle)

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Mayor			Mayor			Mayor			Mayor			Mayor
	Council 1				Council 1**			Council 1			Council 1		
Council 2			Council 2			Council 2			Council 2			Council 2	

PROS	CONS
~Increased continuity	~**One special (4) year term would get Council 1 Alderman off Mayoral election
~Level playing field :: everyone plays by the same rules	cycle; three-year terms thereafter
	~No election savings

OPTION III :: 4-year Council & 3-year Mayor Terms (12-year cycle)

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Mayor			Mayor			Mayor			Mayor			Mayor
	Council 1				Council 1				Council 1				Council 1
Council 2				Council 2				Council 2				Council 2	

PROS	CONS
~No special term length required.	~Inconsistency wrt level playing field. 17% of the time there are different rules.
~No election 33% of the time (4 of every 12 years)	
~Gives more continuity to both powers in an aldermanic gov't	

OPTION IV :: 3-year Council & 4-year Mayor Terms (12-year cycle)

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Mayor				Mayor				Mayor				Mayor
	Council 1			Council 1			Council 1			Council 1			Council 1
Council 2			Council 2			Council 2			Council 2			Council 2	

PROS	CONS
~No election 25% of the time (6 of 24 years)	~Inconsistency wrt level playing field. 17% of the time there are different rules.
	~Gives more continuity to the lesser power in an aldermanic form of gov't

Option V :: 2-year Council and 3-year Mayor (6-year cycle)

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Mayor			Mayor			Mayor			Mayor			Mayor
	Council 1		Council 1		Council 1		Council 1		Council 1		Council 1		Council 1
Council 2		Council 2		Council 2		Council 2		Council 2		Council 2		Council 2	

PROS	CONS
~Slightly more continuity for mayor	~Inconsistent playing field. 100% of the time there are two different sets of rules.
	~No non-election years.

CURRENT :: 2-year Terms

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Mayor		Mayor		Mayor		Mayor		Mayor		Mayor		
	Council 1		Council 1		Council 1		Council 1		Council 1		Council 1		
Council 2		Council 2		Council 2		Council 2		Council 2		Council 2		Council 2	

PROS	CONS
	~No continuity
	~Inconsistent playing field. 100% of the time there are two different sets of rules.
	~No non-election years.

Notes:

Based on the Pros and Cons, I have rated each of these term-length options for each of the following categories: Fairness, Cost Savings, and Continuity. In options where the scrutinized category was a tie, the resultant rating was weighted based on other positive benefits of the option. They are rated against one another--in order of most benefit to least on a scale from 1 to 6.

OPTION	FAIRNESS	COST SAVINGS	CONTINUITY
I	1	2	1
II	2	4	4
III	3	1	2
IV	4	3	3
V	5	5	5
CURRENT	6	6	6

~If you concur with this analysis, then it becomes clear that OPTIONS I and III result in the most benefits while OPTIONS II, IV, and V provide the least, current term length notwithstanding.

~OPTION I provides a condition where all elected officials are playing by the same rules as well as provides increased continuity. There is a cost savings by reducing election years by 25%.

~OPTION III provides for a greater cost savings by reducing election years by 33%, provides some increased continuity but does not level the playing field.