

Governance Purpose Charter

The Governance Purpose Charter is the foundational policy document for a DAO or collective governance structure. It draws a hard boundary between operational governance — decisions the collective actually makes, executes, and tracks — and symbolic governance, where voting occurs but execution authority sits elsewhere or nowhere. Before a single proposal is drafted or a vote held, this charter must declare what the DAO decides, what it does not decide, and what is categorically out of scope for any vote. Every downstream artifact in c9-dao-governance derives its authority from this charter; if a decision class is not named here, it has no governance legitimacy.

1. Governance Mission

State the single sentence that explains why this governance structure exists. The mission anchors all decision-rights scoping. It should name the pool of resources or shared actions being governed, not aspirations.

```
governance_id: <kebab-case, unique, e.g. pp-dao>
mission: >
  <One sentence: govern [shared resource / platform / treasury] so that [named
    participants] can [take coordinated action] without [named coordination failure]>.
founding_date: <ISO 8601>
charter_version: 0.1.0
charter_owner: <role, e.g. Founding Steward Council>
```

2. What This DAO Actually Decides

List the decision classes subject to formal governance. For each class, state the resource, asset, or authority being governed, the mechanism (vote, multisig, working-group delegation), and the binding effect (on-chain execution, off-chain commitment, or advisory recommendation). Precision here prevents scope drift later.

Decision Class	Governed Resource / Authority	Binding Mechanism	Notes
treasury-allocation	Funds held in the DAO treasury	Token vote → multisig execution	Requires quorum; milestone-gated disbursements
contract-change	GROW substrate / platform contracts	Supermajority token vote → steward execution	Meta-governance class — see §4
working-group-charter	Working group authority and budget	Simple majority vote	Renewable quarterly
membership-change	Add or remove member class or tier	Supermajority token vote	Cannot retroactively remove earned tokens
parameter-update	On-chain governance parameters (quorum %, thresholds)	Supermajority + time-lock	Requires advance notice period
retroactive-reward	Contributor compensation after delivery	Token vote	Evidence pack required; no self-vote

Decision Class	Governed Resource / Authority	Binding Mechanism	Notes
platform-partnership	External integrations, API grants, revenue shares	Board + token ratification	Board may block; membership may override

3. What Is Not Subject to Vote

Operational governance fails when the vote mechanism is applied to things it cannot competently decide, should never change by vote, or has already been committed to stakeholders. This section names those exclusions explicitly.

Never subject to vote:

- Day-to-day operational decisions delegated to named roles (site manager, treasurer, technical lead). Delegated authority is the role's to exercise within its defined scope; revocation of delegation requires a separate working-group-charter vote.
- Individual hiring, compensation, or performance matters. These are HR decisions that belong to the accountable steward, not to collective deliberation.
- Emergency safety actions. If an immediate threat to property, persons, or data exists, the accountable steward acts first and reports within 24 hours; the DAO ratifies or overturns after the fact.
- Anything already governed by binding legal contract, statute, or regulatory requirement. Law supersedes governance. Where the two conflict, legal counsel resolves; the DAO may instruct counsel but cannot override statute by vote.
- Decisions that have passed an irreversible-impact boundary. Once an external commitment is made (deed filed, funds wired, regulator notified), the DAO governs future actions, not the past one.

Advisory-only (non-binding) topics the DAO may opine on but not bind:

- Brand and creative direction recommendations (binding authority rests with the founding steward).
- Technical architecture suggestions (binding authority rests with the technical lead, subject to contract-change class for platform contracts).
- Grant application strategy (the authorized signatory decides; the DAO's view is solicited but not required).

4. Meta-Governance: The Contract-Change Rule

A contract-change proposal is the only authorized mechanism for amending any substrate file, interface contract (C1–C12), or platform-level operational policy at a MAJOR version. This rule cannot be suspended by any other vote type. It exists to prevent operational decisions from silently rewriting the rules of the system itself.

The meta-governance rule is stated here for human clarity and is enforced technically by the C11 contract: c9-execution-accountability records every decision_class: contract-change outcome and the s3-provenance-metadata-schema lineage chain will contain no MAJOR-version amendment that lacks a corresponding passed contract-change provenance record.

Any proposed MAJOR amendment that lacks a completed contract-change proposal is automatically blocked at the implementation gate; stewards may not execute it and tooling will not emit the required C11 record.

5. Worked Example — PP DAO Charter Instantiation

The following is an illustrative instantiation of this template for the Point Preserve DAO (PP DAO), the governance structure for the Point Preserve AI campus at 725 J D Miller Road, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459.

```
governance_id: pp-dao
mission: >
  Govern the Point Preserve treasury and platform agreements so that PP DAO
  token holders can fund AI campus improvements, authorize revenue-share
  partnerships, and amend platform contracts without unilateral action by
  any single participant.
founding_date: 2026-01-01 # (illustrative)
charter_version: 0.1.0
charter_owner: Founding Steward Council
```

PP DAO operational scope:

- Treasury: STR revenue share pool, AI campus membership fees, grant receipts (illustrative total: \$180,000/yr) (illustrative)
- Platform contracts in scope for contract-change: OwnerRez channel agreements, AI infrastructure service agreements, GROW Library substrate licenses
- Out of scope: Individual STR booking operations (delegated to site manager), individual guest communications, utility billing

PP DAO exclusions affirmed:

- The elected Special District Commissioner seat held by a Founding Steward is a public office governed by Florida statute (FS Chapter 189[[VERIFY](#)]) and is not subject to DAO governance. The Commissioner participates as an individual; no DAO vote binds the Commissioner's official actions.
- DEP Grant LPA0381 disbursement conditions are governed by state grant terms; DAO votes cannot modify disbursement rules [[VERIFY](#) grant ID currency].

6. Charter Maintenance Rules

This charter is a living policy document but is not casually amended. Any change to §2 (decision classes), §3 (exclusions), or §4 (meta-governance rule) requires a contract-change class proposal under the full governance process defined in c9-decision-rights-matrix and c9-governance-mechanisms-spec. Changes to §1 (mission) or §6 (this section) also require a contract-change proposal, since they alter the foundational scope.

Typographic corrections, broken-link fixes, and annotation-only additions may be made by the charter owner with a log entry but without a full vote, provided no substantive rule is altered.

7. Reference Cross-Links

Downstream artifact	What it derives from this charter
c9-decision-rights-matrix	The decision-class table in §2 becomes the row set for the rights matrix
c9-resource-allocation-framework	Treasury scope defined in §2 and §5 governs allocation rules
c9-governance-mechanisms-spec	Quorum and threshold rules apply only to decision classes named in §2
c9-execution-accountability	C11 producer; derives meta-governance rule from §4
c9-governance-package	Pulls §2 table as the governance charter scaffold

Usage Notes

Instantiate §1 and §2 before any other governance artifact. The decision-class table must be complete and stable before building c9-decision-rights-matrix — rows cannot be added to the matrix without a corresponding entry here. Mark all dollar figures, dates, and grant identifiers (illustrative) until externally verified. Review this charter annually and at every governance parameter change; version it in lockstep with c9-governance-mechanisms-spec.