



Sunnyvale

## Council Subcommittee on Boards & Commissions

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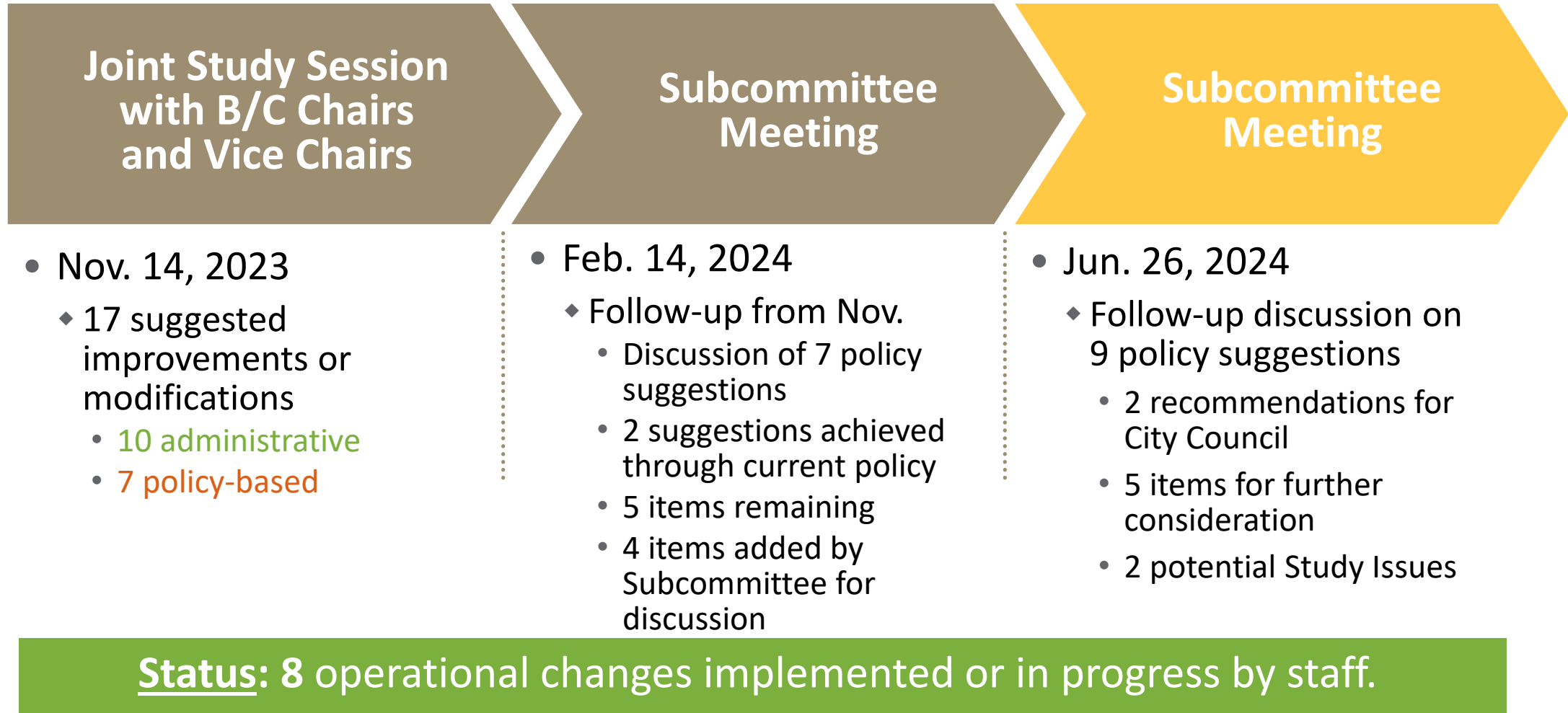


# Background

- ~37 City staff members regularly support, staff and facilitate Sunnyvale's 10 B/Cs (60 members)
- Quarterly meetings: hosted by City Clerk for B/C Liaisons and other key staff
- B/C policy changes require significant effort and collaboration (+ budget, potentially)



# Background



# Policy Considerations – 9 Items for Discussion Today

## Subcommittee Recommendations to City Council (*2 items*)

1. Supplemental questions on B/C Application
2. Arts Commission Work Plan modification

## Policy Items Returning to Subcommittee (*5 items*)

1. Member led presentations
2. Chair written communication
3. Board of Library Trustees size
4. Human Relations Commission size
5. City email addresses

## Potential Study Issues (*2 items*)

1. Create transportation B/C
2. Expand scope of Heritage Preservation Commission



# Subcommittee Recommendation to City Council (1 of 2)

## Policy Change Consideration

- Add an item to each B/C's annual work plan to review and propose new supplemental questions for B/C application
- Supplemental questions assist Councilmembers in evaluating B/C applicants

## Staff Input

- Add one-time or as-needed instead of annual review
  - ◆ E.g., review interview questions no less than every 5 years (terms are 4 years)

# Subcommittee Recommendation to City Council (2 of 2)

## Policy Change Consideration

- Modify this year's Arts Commission work plan to add dynamic, interactive and literary art forms

*Note: in addition to work plan, Arts Commission annually reviews several public art projects (e.g., utility box art, Sunnyvale Suns), Civic Center artwork and AIPD\**

\*Art in Private Development

## Staff Input

- Request that Subcommittee identify work plan items of interest
- Any items Subcommittee would like Council to consider removing?

# Policy Items Returning to the Subcommittee (1 of 5)

## Policy Change Consideration

- Policy that would permit all B/Cs to have member led presentations, so long as they fit in the work plan and do not require staff time to prepare

## Staff Input

- No policy modification needed; current policy & practice allow (time permitting)
  - ◆ Proposals for member led presentations may be made via staff liaison
  - ◆ B/C Chair to ensure agenda items are in alignment with approved work plan

## Policy Items Returning to the Subcommittee (2 of 5)

### Policy Change Consideration

- Policy to allow B/C to authorize Chair to provide written communication related to a member led presentation to the City Council

### Staff Input

- Member led presentations are informational; Brown Act does not allow action
- Any B/C Member may contact Council at any time on own behalf



# Policy Items Returning to the Subcommittee (3 of 5)

## Policy Change Consideration

- Increase size of Board of Library Trustees from five (5) to seven (7) members
- Would require amendment to City Charter

## Staff Input

- Challenges filling current five positions
- Fiscal impact \$136,926 for Nov 2026 charter amendment + staff resources to support Charter amendment and additional Commissioners
- Recommend maintaining Board of Library Trustees at its current size unless an identified need arises to pursue charter amendment

# Policy Items Returning to the Subcommittee (4 of 5)

## Policy Change Consideration

- Increase size of Human Relations Commission (HRC) from five (5) to seven (7) members
- Would not require amendment to City Charter; update to Council Policy

## Staff Input

- No challenge currently with interest in serving on the HRC
- Broadens community representation on the Committee
- Increases staff time to support additional Commissioners
- Staff makes no recommendation

# Policy Items Returning to the Subcommittee (5 of 5)

## Policy Change Consideration

- Allow B/C members to communicate with members of the public via City-issued email addresses

*Note: Current Council Policy prohibits B/C members from representing their B/C outside of public meetings.*

## Staff Input

- Staff recommends continuing current practice using B/C AnswerPoint for public comments and communication
  - ◆ Ensures information is readily available to all members and City staff
- If B/C members granted City email, additional policy clarification and budget modification will be necessary (\$20k/year + 60-70 hrs/year of ITD support)

# Potential Study Issues (1 of 2)

## Considerations

- Create a transportation commission or adjust the scope of an existing commission such as Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) or Sustainability to include more transportation issues

## Staff Comments

- Existing BPAC advises City Council on bicycle and pedestrian issues
- City's current regional partners on transportation: Councilmembers appointed to Santa Clara County Expressway 2040, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and VTA B/Cs, Caltrain Local Policy Maker Group and Council-appointed community member to VTA-BPAC.

## Potential Study Issues (2 of 2)

### Considerations

- Expand scope of Heritage Preservation Commission to include more community engagement and Sunnyvale history

### Staff Comments

- Heritage Preservation Commission scope includes advising capacity to Council and has decision-making authority on restoration, maintenance and operation of heritage resources
- All B/Cs are charged with providing a forum and opportunity for broad community input

# Fiscal and Staffing Impacts

- Creating new or significantly expanded B/C(s)
  - ◆ Staff would analyze resource needs for Council consideration
  - ◆ Board of Library Trustees would require charter amendment (est. cost \$136,926 in Nov 2026 election + costs of public info/staff support)
- Providing City email accounts to B/C members
  - ◆ Licensing cost of ~\$20k/yr (budget mod)
  - ◆ 60-70 hrs/yr IT staff support





# Subcommittee Discussion & Next Steps

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