



Sunnyvale

Creation of a Human
Relations Commission
([Study Issue OCM 21-02](#))

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August 9, 2022



Presentation Overview

Human Relations Commission Background

Potential Responsibilities & Policy Issues

Commissioner Eligibility

Commission Size and Term Length

Timeline for Implementation

Summary of Decision Points

Human Relations Commission Background

- **Jan. 12, 2021:** Councilmembers Cisneros, Fong, Din, and Melton sponsor study issue
- **March 22, 2022:** Majority of Council expressed a desire to move forward
- **June 21, 2022:** Council adopted the 2022/23 budget to fund the Human Relations Commission

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Potential Policy Issues and Responsibilities

- Advise the City Council regarding policies, systems and programs related to and affecting human relations, social justice issues, and equity
 - ◆ Specifically, the Commission can conduct study sessions or needs assessments to
 - Define key issues in the community to suggest appropriate changes to ordinances, resolutions, and policies
 - Recommend to the Council and develop additional programs and practices designed to further commission objectives

Potential Policy Issues and Responsibilities

- Celebrate and encourage intergroup understanding of the rich cultural diversity of the Sunnyvale Community
 - ◆ By supporting existing multi-cultural events and programs in collaboration with other City departments
 - ◆ Helping recognize and elevate the work of individuals and organizations

Potential Policy Issues and Responsibilities

- Advise city staff on ways promote regular, civil, and authentic communication between diverse groups of residents
 - ◆ By supporting educational programs and activities that build community and foster intergroup understanding (like listening forums, training workshops, speaker series).
 - ◆ Conducting programs, like civility roundtables, designed to bring groups together to proactively address current and ongoing intergroup tensions.

Potential Policy Issues and Responsibilities

- Advise city staff on increasing accessibility and transparency in City government
 - ◆ By identifying and recommending outreach methods to ensure all residents can access services and provide input on policy decisions.

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Commissioner Eligibility

Criteria to Consider

- Resident of the City
 - ◆ Youth/high school student
- Non-resident if a nonprofit/public agency representative (up to 1)
- Interest in and ability to carry out the responsibilities of the Human Relations Commission
- Appreciation for the diverse demographics of the City, including but not limited to geography, race, ethnicity, gender, age and economic class
- Reasonably reflect the diversity of the City

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Timeline for Implementation

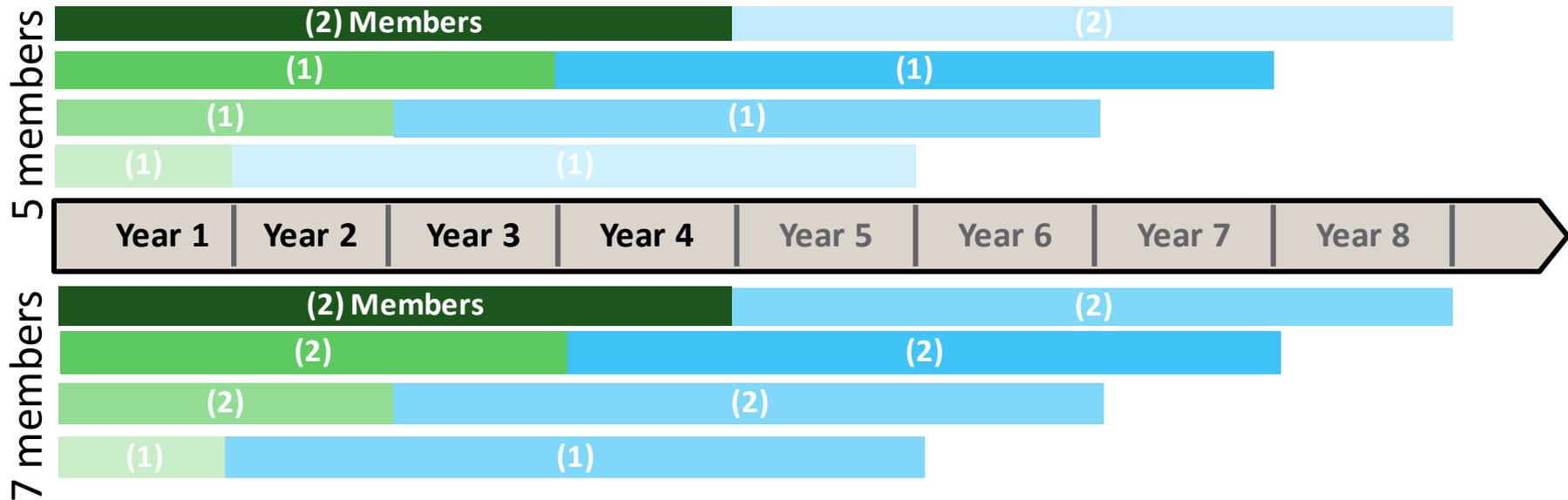
Summary of Decision Points

Commission Size

- Consider 5 or 7 members mirroring existing Sunnyvale Board and Commission membership size.
 - ◆ 5 Members
 - Arts Commission, Board of Building Code Appeals, Board of Library Trustees, Parks and Recreation Commission, Personnel Board
 - ◆ 7 Members
 - Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, Heritage Preservations Commission, Housing and Human Services Commission, Planning Commission, Sustainability Commission

Commission Term Length

- Consider a 4-year term like other Sunnyvale board and commission term length.
- Initial appointment staggered options:



Green – first appointment cycle

Blue – second appointment cycle

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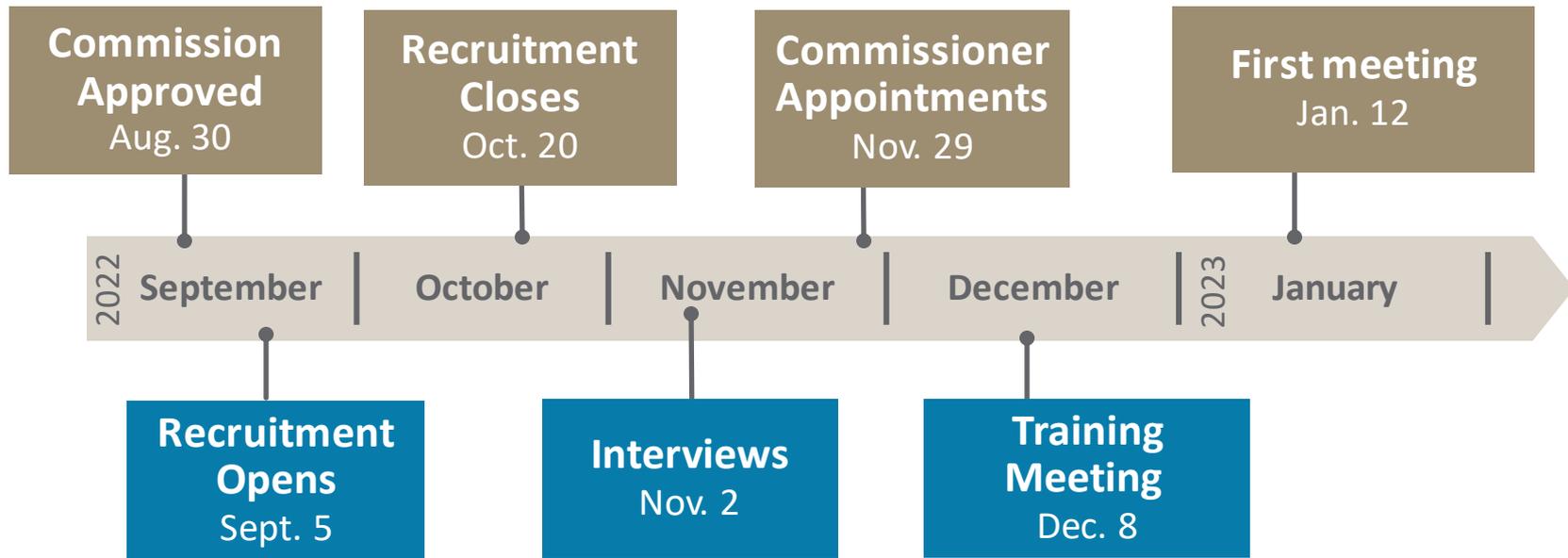
Commission Size and Term Length



Timeline for implementation

Summary of Decision Points

Implementation Timeline



Next Steps

On August 30, staff will place the item on consent including:

- A. Resolution to create the Human Relations Commission
- B. Modifications to [Council Policy 7.2.19 Boards and Commissions](#) to incorporate the Human Relations Commission, including adding bylaws and duties

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Commission Size and Term Length

Timeline for Implementation



Summary of Decision Points

Decision Points

Determine consensus of majority Council for the following:

- Policy Issues & Responsibilities
- Eligibility Criteria
- Size of Commission: 5 or 7
- 4-year term, with initial staggered terms