

Follow up from Nov. 14 Council Joint City Council Study Session with Board/Commission Chairs/Vice Chairs

Policy Framework

- CP 7.2.19 = [Council Policy 7.2.19 Boards and Commissions](#)

Policy Suggestions – *Changes would require Council direction*

1. When a Board or Commission considers a Study Issue generated by a different Board/Commission the originating Board/Commission be able to communicate the reasoning for the Study Issue.

Current Practice: This is able to be achieved through public comment at the Board/Commission meeting.

2. Provide a Board/Commission report in Reports to Council where the Board/Commission did not move the staff recommendation.

Current Practice: Board/Commission input is included in the staff report as a “cover report” detailing the Board/Commission’s recommendation to City Council. CP 7.2.19 designates the Chair as the liaison to Council at City Council meetings. Board/Commission members are invited to participate in public comment when City Council considers these items.

3. Allow one member of each Board/Commission to participate in the appointment process for other members of their Board/Commission.

Current Practice: CP 7.2.19 provides the process for City Council to appoint Board and Commission members.

4. Create a transportation commission or adjust the scope of an existing commission such as BPAC or Sustainability to include more transportation issues.

Current Practice: The City works closely with regional partners on transportation issues by appointing Councilmembers to Santa Clara County Expressway 2040, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and several VTA boards/committees, Caltrain Local Policy Maker Group. Council also appoints a Community Member to the VTA - Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. In addition, the Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) advises the City Council on bicycle and pedestrian issues.

5. Expand Arts Commission to an Arts and Culture Commission.

Current Practice: The City’s new Human Relations Commission has a scope of work that includes advising the City Council in matters and service pertaining to parks, open space, playgrounds, entertainment, other cultural and recreational activities.

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

Current Practice: The Heritage Preservation Commission scope includes advising capacity to the City Council and has certain decision- making authority on the restoration, maintenance and operation of heritage resources throughout the City. All Boards and Commissions are charged with providing a forum and opportunity for broad community input.

7. Provide a clear method for Board/Commission Members to add agenda items that do not require staff support.

Current Practice: Board and Commission Members may suggest ideas to the Staff Liaison throughout the year for addition to an upcoming agenda. These items can also be included in the work plan each Board/Commission recommends to the City Council. The Sustainability Commission occasionally hears presentation items from its commissioners. These presentations are included in the Sustainability Commission's Work Plan approved by City Council. This process is available to other commissions.