



COUNCIL AGENDA: 12/6/2022

ITEM: 2.26

FILE NO: 22-1894

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Toni J. Taber, CMC
City Clerk

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: December 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Request for Travel Authorization for Councilmember Cohen

Recommendation

As recommended by the Rules and Open Government Committee on November 30, 2022, authorize travel for Councilmember Cohen to Israel from March 17, 2023 to March 27, 2023 to attend the Israel Seminar for Bay Area elected leaders, sponsored by Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and Bay Area Network of Jewish Officials (BANJO). (Source of Funds: Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and personal funds)

CEQA: Not a Project, File No. PP17-010, City Organizational and Administrative Activities resulting in no changes to the physical environment. (Cohen)

[Rules Committee referral 11/30/2022 - Item B.5]



Memorandum

TO: RULES AND OPEN
GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

FROM: Councilmember Cohen

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: November 30, 2022

Approved

Date: November 16, 2022

Request for Travel Authorization for Councilmember Cohen

Recommendation: Authorize travel for Councilmember Cohen to Israel from March 17-27, 2023 for the Israel Seminar for Bay Area elected leaders, sponsored by Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and Bay Area Network of Jewish Officials (BANJO).

Location: Various locations in Israel

Meeting Dates: March 17-27, 2023

Source of Funds: Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and personal funds

Anticipated Cost: \$5,500 JCRC / \$2400 personal funds

Purpose:

For over 20 years, JCRC's Israel Seminar has hosted leading Bay Area elected officials, civic/community leaders, nonprofit directors, and other change makers. The trip has been described as "life-altering" and "deeply moving" by past participants, including Vice President Kamala Harris, Treasurer Fiona Ma, Mayor London Breed, City Attorneys David Chiu and Barbara Parker, Senator Scott Wiener, and 200+ other Bay Area leaders. The Seminar involves a 9-day trip to Israel and the West Bank. Key themes include: 1) engaging with changemakers on social and economic issues relevant to the Bay Area; 2) deepening understanding of Israel's geopolitical challenges and relationships; 3) exploring different dimensions and viewpoints on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The trip includes a visit to the Knesset (Israeli Parliament) and exploration of Israeli water policy, including desalination. Jewish Community Relations Council is a 501(c)3 organization in good standing with the State of California.