



Amendment to the Planning Commission Composition Ordinance

June 2, 2020
Item 8.1

Presenter: Rosalynn Hughey, Director, PBCE



*Planning, Building and
Code Enforcement*

Background

April 18, 2019 Memorandum from the Mayor, Vice Mayor and Councilmembers Esparza and Carrasco to the Rules Committee:

1. Amend Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code to:

- Prohibit any new or renewing applicants for Planning Commission where two sitting commissioners come from the same Council District
- Provide that Commissioners may be reappointed no more than once

2. Draft Charter amendment for November 2020 ballot to restructure Planning Commission to include 11 members with one from each Council District and one at-large member

3. Amend the Lobbyist Ordinance to prohibit an individual who has been a registered lobbyist within the previous two years from appointment to the Planning Commission

4. Extend the Revolving Door Ordinance provisions to apply to former Planning Commissioners

5. Conduct convenings to get input on improving outreach and training for future Planning Commissioners; Create a recruitment plan; and Consider partnerships to assist with outreach and recruitment

6. Improve online application process; improve application package format to Councilmembers; and **reevaluate the prohibition on communication with applicants** prior to the public interview to better allow Councilmembers to evaluate applicants

Initial Staff Strategy

- Planning Commission study session – held February 26, 2020

Due to COVID 19 Shelter In Place Order:

- Neighborhoods Commission briefing – March 11, 2020 meeting cancelled
- 3 community meetings in March and April (2 evening, 1 Saturday) – cancelled
- Polling planned for March – put on hold

Proposed Staff Strategy

- Upcoming 5 vacancies on Planning Commission
- Phased approach
- Phase 1: Amend Chapter 2.08, Title 2 of the Municipal Code
 - a) Limit the number of members of the Planning Commission who reside in the same Council District to two;
 - b) Adopt a two-term limit for Commission membership;
 - c) Consider an alternative limit on the number of members of the Planning Commission who reside in the same Council District to one; and
 - d) Consider a provision allowing the Council to override the District limitation by a majority vote.
- Phase 2: Charter amendment

Planning Commission Recommendation

May 27, 2020 Planning Commission meeting – recommended that the City Council:

- a) Approve an ordinance amending Section 2.08.4000 of Chapter 2.08 of Title 2 of the San José Municipal Code to **limit the number of members of the Planning Commission who reside in the same Council District to one**, with a seven-member Commission; and
- b) Direct staff to focus recruitment efforts to members of other City commissions and boards, in addition to the general public

Discussion / Q&A