City of San José



Legislation Text

File #: ROGC 19-100, Version: 1

Planning Commission. (Liccardo, Jones, Esparza, Carrasco)

- 1. Amend Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code to:
- a. Prohibit any new or renewing applicants for Planning Commission where two sitting commissioners come from the same Council District.
- i. Specify that if a sitting Commissioner moves into a Council district with two members then that Commissioner must notify the City Clerk, but may complete their current term.
 - b. Provide that Commissioners may be reappointed no more than once.
- 2. Direct the City Attorney to draft, and return to Council with, a Charter amendment for the November 2020 ballot that would align the Planning Commission to the structure of other Council nominated commissions to include 11 members with one from each Council District and one at-large member.
- a. Direct the City Manager and City Attorney to look for other necessary Charter changes or clean-up actions to reduce election costs that could be included with this amendment.
- 3. Amend the Lobbyist Ordinance (Chapter 12.12) 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 (Chapter 12.10) provisions that currently apply to former Councilmembers and City staff to apply to former Planning Commissioners.
- 5. Direct the Office of the City Clerk, in collaboration with the City Manager/Department of Planning, Building, & Code Enforcement to:
- a. Convene interested community leaders and external stakeholders to seek input on improving outreach and training for future Planning Commissioners.
- b. Create a recruitment plan for the Planning Commission that helps to educate potential candidates on the subject matter, encourages a demographically and geographically diverse pool of candidates, and facilitates robust outreach to qualified candidates.
- c. Consider partnerships with knowledgeable organizations such as SPUR, Urban Land Institute, or the San José State University Urban Planning Department to assist or take on any part of these efforts.
- 6. Direct the Office of the City Clerk in collaboration with the City Attorney's Office to consider the following and return with recommendations:
- a. Improve the clarity of online applications and the format in which the Councilmembers receive these applications.
- b. Reevaluate the prohibition on communication with applicants prior to the public interview to better allow Councilmembers to evaluate applicants.