



Council Meeting: May 11, 2010

SUBJECT: Appointment to the Santa Clara County Cities Association Legislative Action Committee

BACKGROUND

The City Council annually appoints members to a variety of intergovernmental agencies in order to represent the City's interests and to influence policies and regulations of other agencies. The City Council may also, on occasion, appoint a non-Councilmember to represent the City's interest on an intergovernmental body. Specific intergovernmental appointments are also sometimes made by other agencies; the appointments are then subject to Council ratification.

EXISTING POLICY

Legislative Sub Element, Goal 7.3C: Participate in intergovernmental activities, including national, state and regional groups, as a means to represent the City's interest, influence policy and legislation, and enhance awareness.

DISCUSSION

Since Council action in January to fill intergovernmental assignments, the Santa Clara County Cities Association (SCCCA) has contacted the City to request an appointment to their Legislative Action Committee (LAC).

The purpose of the Legislative Action Committee is threefold. First, the LAC enables the Cities Association to advocate on issues of interest to Santa Clara County cities in an organized, effective manner. Second, the LAC provides basic legislative information to cities with little or no legislative staff. Third, the LAC organizes emergency responses to urgent issues. The guidelines for pending federal and state legislation is two fold: 1) determine if the League of California Cities and/or the National League of Cities have taken a position on the issue, and whether they consider the matter of municipal concern and give some deference to their positions; and 2) generally do not take a position until the LAC has had the opportunity to hear from a spokesperson from each side of the issue.

The LAC only meets when there are legislative matters to discuss. The first meeting will be on May 13 at 6:30 p.m., prior to the City Selection Committee and Board of Directors Meeting. Staff support for this assignment will be provided by Yvette Blackford, Intergovernmental Relations Officer, Office of the City Manager.

The Legislative Action Committee and the City Selection Committee (CSC) are advisory to the SCCCA Board of Directors. The SCCCA staff recommends that Council consider appointing the same member of Council to both the CSC and the LAC since both committees meet immediately prior to convening of the Board of Directors. Per Council policy 7.3.12 *City Council Appointments to Intergovernmental Agencies, City Council Subcommittees and Council or Mayor-Created Advisory Task Forces*, the Mayor appoints the City's representative to the City Selection Committee. Should Council wish to make the selection of the City's representative to the LAC a Mayoral appointment, staff will modify the Council policy accordingly.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to this report.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk and on the City's Web site.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Authorize appointment to the SCCCA Legislative Action Committee by the Mayor.
2. Retain appointment to the SCCCA Legislative Action Committee by the Council.
3. Council takes no action at this time.
4. Other action as directed by Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends Alternative 1:

Authorize appointment to the SCCCA Legislative Action Committee by the Mayor.

Reviewed by:

Robert Walker, Assistant City Manager

Prepared by: Yvette Blackford, Intergovernmental Relations Officer

Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbers
City Manager