

DATE: 9/24/2024

TO: COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

SUBJECT: COUNCIL Q&A FOR SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Study Session:

- Regarding the staff report, I have the following questions about the status of the openings on the Complete Streets Commission:

Staff report says there are 4 seats expiring on CSC with one second-term seat expiring and three first-term seats expiring, but on our website it only shows 3 seats expiring (one partial and 2 first terms). There are two incumbents, Katz and Venkatramen (who is not even shown as an incumbent in the report), reapplying at the end of their first terms, and I know Commissioner O'Yang is not reapplying. Who is the 4th Commissioner whose seat is expiring? Please clarify or correct discrepancies between the website and the staff report, it seems to me that there are only 3 seats with two eligible incumbents.

Answer: There are three vacancies on this commission. The report was a typo and has been corrected.

Agenda Item 1 (Minutes):

- Please see the accompanying pdf.

Answer: Corrected.

- Establish Quorum, Sally Meadows, Councilmember, announced she would attend the meeting remotely due to a medical issue. [delete 'illness']

Answer: Corrected.

- Agenda Item 11, I believe we also voted on and accepted Environmental Commission recommendation #5 (in addition to 1 and 2), although I am not sure of the vote tally.

Answer: The City Council voted on recommendations 1 and 2 and the motion for 5 was withdrawn before a formal vote could be taken.

Agenda Item 2 (Districts):

- What are the criteria staff and/or Redistricting Partners suggest the council consider when determining which districts should be up for election during a presidential election year and which should be up for election during a midterm year?

Answer: There is no additional guidance related to establishing the sequence of elections other than that “special consideration” should be given to community input in terms of establishing the sequence. In some cases where a majority-minority or influence district may be drawn, it may be in furtherance of the CVRA for the first district-election to take place during a presidential election year, given that there is typically higher voter turnout. In other cases, and depending on voter turnout, it may make sense for the majority-minority district election to take place first so that voters are able to exercise their voting power immediately.

- What are the criteria staff and/or Redistricting Partners suggest the council consider when determining the length of time a resident must live in a district before they are eligible to run for a seat on the Council from that district?

Answer: There is not set criteria that staff recommends Council consider. Rather, if Council wishes to establish any sort of time for residency, Council can provide that direction at the meeting. Per the California Government Code (GC 36812), the City Council can determine the qualifications (i.e., length of time a resident must live in a district) of Council members (beyond registered to vote in the district).

- What are the rules adopted by other agencies in Santa Clara County with respect to length of time a resident must live in a district before they can run for a seat on the Council from that district?

Answer: Staff is not aware of other agencies within the County which have rules related to length of time a resident must live in a district before they can run for that seat.