



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: April 28, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Administrative Services Department

SUBJECT: Possible Charter Amendments Affecting The Architectural Board Of Review, Harbor Commission, Park Commission And Recreation Commission, And Residency Requirements

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Discuss interest in possible charter amendments pertaining to the size and composition of the Architectural Board of Review, Harbor Commission, Park Commission and Recreation Commission; and residency requirements for boards and commissions; and
- B. Provide direction to staff on how to proceed.

DISCUSSION:

On prior occasions, Council has discussed the following potential charter amendments:

ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW

- Reduce the size of the Board from nine to seven members
- Modify the City requirement that all members be City residents/electors to allow less than a majority of the board members to be County residents

HARBOR COMMISSION

- Expand the size of the Harbor Commission from five to seven members
- Allow one of the members of the commission to be a non-city resident

PARK COMMISSION AND RECREATION COMMISSION

- Consolidate the Park Commission and the Recreation Commission, thereby creating a single commission named the Park and Recreation Commission
- Increase the membership of the Park and Recreation Commission from five to seven Commissioners

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT OF COMMISSIONERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

- Modify the City Charter to eliminate the requirement, as applicable, that all of the members of City boards and commissions be City residents/electors and to allow for some board members or commissioners to be County residents

With one exception, all of the above charter amendments continue to have some degree of interest. However, recently the Park Commission and the Recreation Commission, which have the same members and meet jointly, are not recommending expanding the size of the commission from five to seven members should the commissions be combined.

Directors from the corresponding departments who staff the Board and Commissions will be at the meeting to answer questions.

SCHEDULE/NEXT STEPS

If the Council wants to move forward with Charter amendments, the following steps and schedule apply:

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>ACTION</u> |
|-------------|--|
| May/June | If needed – discussion with affected Boards and Commissions. |
| 6/9/09 | City Attorney to return to Council with proposed ballot language. |
| 6/30/09 | City Council to adopt resolutions calling and giving notice of the general municipal election, including proposed charter amendments, and directing the City Attorney to prepare impartial analyses. |
| 11/3/09 | Hold election on Tuesday, November 3, 2009. |
| 11/24/09 | Present canvass to Council and adopt resolution certifying election results. |
| 12/1/09 | City Clerk to forward certified copies of voter-approved Charter Amendments to Secretary of State for acceptance and filing. |
| TBD | Charter Amendments become effective after acceptance and filing by the Secretary of State. |

SUBMITTED BY: Marcelo A. López, Administrative Services Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office