

Council Working Group Discussion

City Council Working Session

September 22, 2015



Council Meeting Format-Background

- Previous to 1st Quarter 2012
 - Four Committees*
 - Administration and Finance
 - Public Safety and Justice
 - Land Use and Parks
 - Transportation and Public Works
 - Regular Council Meeting-Every other week
 - Presentation of agenda bill at 1st meeting
 - Action on agenda bill at 2nd meeting

*Chair decided format of public comment



Council Meeting Format-Background

- After 1Q 2012
 - Council Study Session every other week in advance of the Regular Council Meeting
 - Agenda bill vetted at study session and decision as to next steps
 - Regular Council Meeting-Every other week
 - Agenda bill typically acted upon two weeks after study session vetting (either consent agenda or action item)



Council Meeting Format-Background

- Stated intent for change in meeting format
 - All CM's would be in attendance at study session
 - Uniform time of study session was more accessible to the public
 - Study session broadcast on SeaTV
- Study session uniformly allowed for public comment (after amendment made)



Background on Working Groups

- Discussed at February 2014 Council Retreat
 - Intent-A forum to allow for a comprehensive discussion amongst working group appointees on individual issues resulting in recommendations to the entire Council body
 - Format-Discussion allowed for individual working groups to dictate format (date, time, public)



Background on Working Groups

- Discussed at February 2014 Council Retreat
 - Criteria discussed
 - Is this a “major” policy/subject/issue for the City? How is “major” defined?
 - Is it something that the City Council feels deserves more attention than just the regular council meeting format? How is City Council defined in this context? Majority? 3 Councilmembers?
 - Will the subject need to come before the City Council over multiple (more than one) study sessions?
 - Is more than one Councilmember inquiring about the same subject or issue?
 - Is this issue going to take a significant amount of Council time to review?



Background on Working Groups

- Working Groups to date
 - Code Compliance Working Group
 - Appointed at the February 2014 retreat
 - Met 5 times over last year to develop recommendations on how to improve our code compliance program
 - Brought forward a recommended program enhancement as part of 2015-16 budget process
 - Discussed code compliance strategic planning update in advance of the June 2015 retreat



Background on Working Groups

- Working Groups to date
 - Budget Working Group
 - Appointed at the June 2014 macro-budget retreat
 - Met 3 times last fall to develop recommendations on the 2015-16 budget
 - Working group recommendations were brought to Council budget workshop last fall for discussion and action
 - Council passed a budget with recommendations largely intact, but with some revisions



Background on Working Groups

- Working Groups to date
 - Defacto
 - Festival Committee-Meeting for several years with other parties including Rotary and Chamber of Commerce to discuss International Festival and 4th of July
 - Fire Station #45 Design Committee-Met in advance of station construction to discuss station design and strategy



Working Groups-OPMA

- Working groups not subject to Open Public Meetings Act, as they are:
 - Are advisory in nature
 - Recommendations would be presented to full Council
- State Attorney General's Office looked into this issue and determined there was not an OPMA violation



Working Groups-Next Steps

