



City of Santa Clara
The Center of What's Possible

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES**
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050
Monday, June 26, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:	Tino Silva, Chair	Mary Hanna-Weir
	Keith Stattenfield, Vice Chair	Rex McIntosh
	Hazel Alabado	Jodi Muirhead
	Markus Bracamonte	Beverly Silva
	Saskia Feain	Teresa Sulcer
	Steve Lodge	
	Hosam Haggag	

Staff: Brian Doyle, Interim City Attorney
Rod Diridon Jr., City Clerk
Raania Mohsen, Management Analyst (Staff Liaison)

Matters for Council Action: Committee recommends that the Charter be changed as follows: elect City Council Members by two (2) districts (e.g. District A and District B) with three (3) Council Members representing each district.

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Tino Silva called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 7:03 pm.

2. **Public Presentations on any matter not on the agenda.**

Steve Chessin addressed Limited Voting, its constitutionality, and its use in 164 jurisdictions across the nation. David Kadlec addressed the point that electing a city council is to get competent, able, honest, articulate people who represent the various interests of the city and discuss issues sharing different points of views.

3. **Approval of Minutes from June 12, 2017 Meeting**

MOTION MADE BY VICE CHAIR STATENFIELD AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BEVERLY SILVA TO APPROVE JUNE 12, 2017 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED 11:0 WITH ONE ABSTENTION FROM BRACAMONTE.

4. **Brief Discussion on City Demographic Report 2011.** Chair noted the report has been provided for the Committee's information and to be referred to during discussion throughout the meeting as needed.

5. Direction on By-District Election Options. Interim City Attorney reviewed attached staff memo and recommended the Committee consider and take action on the following:

1. Recommend if the City should go to districts.
2. If yes, recommend to the City Council that they place on the June 2018 ballot a Charter amendment that would elect City Council Members by either 2, 3, or 6 districts.
3. Recommend that any changes to the system of election that the Committee might recommend, such as cumulative or ranked-choice, be a separate ballot measure that would not go into effect until at least the November 2020 election.

Regarding limited voting, according to advice from the City's outside counsel, limited voting is not recommended; for example, if there are three open seats, it is unlikely that voters of the City of Santa Clara would appreciate having only one vote amongst the three open seats or likely votes.

Interim City Attorney provided the following information to questions from Committee Members:

- The Committee has been tasked with making a recommendation on by-district elections for the City of Santa Clara; the lines of districts will not be drawn by the Committee.
- Once by-districts is approved, the City will start preparing for that transition from now to ensure the process is completed in time for the 2018 elections.

Committee Members discussed the option of six, three, or two districts; Vice Chair Stattenfield and Committee Members Haggag and McIntosh reviewed their proposals (attached).

Poll Question from Chair: Who prefers 6, 3, 2, or no districts?

Answer: 1 Member prefers 6 districts; 6 Members prefer 3 districts; 4 Members prefer 2 districts.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND THREE DISTRICTS OF TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS EACH WITH ELECTION OF A COUNCIL MEMBER IN EACH DISTRICT ALTERNATING EVERY 2 YEARS MADE BY HANNA-WEIR AND SECONDED BY LODGE.

Committee discussed motion.

MOTION TO EXTEND MEETING UNTIL 9:30 PM OR UNTIL ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ADDRESSED MADE BY VICE CHAIR STATENFIELD AND SECONDED BY MUIRHEAD. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 12:0.

MOTION TO AMEND RECOMMENDATION NOT TO INCLUDE SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL MEMBER ELECTIONS MADE BY HANNA-WEIR AND SECONDED BY LODGE.

Committee discussed amended motion and members of the public Pedro Hernandez, Jeremy Macaluso, and Steve Chessin provided comments.

MOTION FAILED 5:7.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND TWO DISTRICTS WITH THREE COUNCIL MEMBERS EACH MADE BY HAGGAG AND SECONDED BY BEVERLY SILVA.

Committee discussed motion and member of the public Steve Chessin provided comments.

MOTION PASSED 7:5.

6. Direction on Alternative Voting Methods. Chair recommended discussion of voting methods (Agenda Item 6) for the next meeting.

7. Future Agenda Topics. Committee recommended including transition and voting methodology as agenda topics for the next meeting. Chair noted there are two more meetings remaining: July 10 and July 24. The July 10 meeting will take place at the Central Park Library, Marie Edinger Meeting Room and the July 24 meeting has been relocated from the Council Chambers to the Central Park Library, Redwood Meeting Room.

8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING MADE BY HAGGAG AND SECONDED BY HANNA-WEIR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 12:0.

Prepared by:



RAANIA MOHSEN
Management Analyst, City Manager's Office

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