

# Agenda Report

March 22, 2010

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Legislative Policy Committee (March 17, 2010)

**FROM:** Human Services and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION TO REMOVE SECTION 2.65.120 FROM THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE WHICH ESTABLISHED THE EXPIRATION DATE OF JUNE 30, 2010 FOR THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that City Council direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance removing Section 2.65.120 from the Pasadena Municipal Code, to eliminate the expiration date (currently set at June 30, 2010) for the Commission on the Status of Women.

## **BACKGROUND:**

At the Legislative Policy Committee meeting of November 17, 2009, while discussing the Annual Report of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission Chair, expressed concern about the upcoming date of June 30, 2010 to sunset this advisory body. The Legislative Policy Committee indicated interest in continuation of this Commission but asked staff to further review the matter to determine whether there was any legislative, administrative or other reason for setting and implementing an expiration date for this advisory body.

Staff reviewed the applicable background material, including Pasadena Municipal Code Chapter 2.65 which establishes the Commission on the Status of Women. Sections 2.65.010 through 2.65.110 establish the title, membership, qualifications, purpose, functions and related criteria for this Commission. These sections are very similar to other sections in Chapter 2 of the Pasadena Municipal Code that establish other City advisory bodies. However, the Commission on the Status of Women has one additional item that differs from other City commissions addressed in this Chapter: Section 2.65.120 "Expiration of chapter" which states "This chapter shall expire on June 30, 2010".

Remove Commission Expiration Date

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A review of the background on the establishment of the City of Pasadena Commission on the Status of Women revealed that in 1977, while drafting the structure for this proposed new body, Pasadena staff consulted with other cities for possible models and guidelines. One such municipality was the City of Los Angeles, which had established a Commission on the Status of Women in 1975. Correspondence dated May 18, 1977 from the Pasadena City Attorney to the City of Pasadena Board of Directors regarding the final draft of "the Status of Women Commission Ordinance" refers to including an expiration date based on the City of Los Angeles model, stating "...the city of Los Angeles has an automatic cutoff date for their Commission." However, in 1980 the City of the City of Los Angeles eliminated the sunset clause for their Commission on the Status of Women.

The Pasadena Commission on the Status of Women was formally established in May 1977 when the Pasadena Board of Directors adopted Ordinance No. 5320, which stated: "This ordinance shall become inoperative on June 30, 1988". The Pasadena City Council subsequently took action to amend the original expiration date, first extending it to June 30, 1997, and then to June 30, 2010.

The Pasadena Commission on the Status of Women is a valued advisory body that provides an important forum to address issues affecting women in Pasadena. The function of the Commission is to study and examine, through appropriate methods, those conditions which indicate discrimination or prejudice encountered by women; recommend procedures, programs, and legislation to promote and insure equal rights and opportunities for all women in Pasadena; and consult and cooperate with other public agencies and commissions on matters relevant to the commission. Continuation of this important advisory body contributes to the quality of life of the Pasadena community.

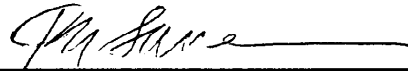
#### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION**

Approval to continue this Commission advances the City Council Strategic Planning Goal to support and promote the quality of life and the local economy.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Continuation of the Commission on the Status of Women has no direct fiscal impact on city funds as this is an existing commission and no additional resources are requested or required.

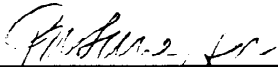
Respectfully submitted,



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