

# Agenda Report

**TO: CITY COUNCIL**

**DATE: AUGUST 1, 2005**

**FROM: CITY MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TAXPAYER PROTECTION AMENDMENT (PASADENA CITY CHARTER, ARTICLE XVII)**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the following recommendations in order to allow implementation of the Taxpayer's Protection Amendment (Pasadena City Charter, Article XVII) requirements:

1. Amend the Fiscal Year 2006 Operating Budget to add 1.0 FTE Management Analyst IV position to be shared by the City Clerk and City Manager Offices;
2. Appropriate \$92,150 from the General Fund Unappropriated Fund Balance for the cost of the FTE (\$90,700 for 10 months) and related equipment (\$1,450) to FY 2006 Operating Budget Accounts Numbers 141000 and 261000, City Manager and City Clerk, respectively;
3. Direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance amending the Pasadena Municipal Code Section 16.08.020, Advisory Agency, dissolving the Subdivision Committee and transferring their responsibilities to a Hearing Officer within 60 days; and
4. Amend the FY 2006 Operating Budget for the Planning and Development Department Account Number 444100-8115, Planning Administration by \$20,000 for additional Hearing Officer services.

## **BACKGROUND**

In March of 2001, Pasadena residents voted to adopt the Taxpayer Protection Amendment, City Charter Article XVII. Implementation of the Charter Amendment will require the City to track and maintain information related to contracts, purchase orders, permits and various other City transactions. The precise level of effort necessary to properly administer this responsibility is currently unknown. However, it is clear that given existing workloads, additional staff resources are required. Consequently, at this time staff is recommending the addition of a single position, that of Management Analyst IV, to coordinate this function.

As proposed the new position will coordinate this effort through two primary functions. The first will be to track information related to decisions made by members of the City Council. This information will be maintained separately for each Council Member since the Taxpayer Protection Amendment applies specifically to the particular votes of individual Council Members. Additionally, this position will track actions approved by the City Manager, which fall below the threshold of City Council approval (\$75,000), but meet the \$25,000 threshold established by the Taxpayer Protection Amendment.

In addition to the elements above, there are at least two other areas where staff, in association with the City Attorney's Office, is seeking to determine how the Charter provision is to be implemented. The first relates to land use decisions made in the Planning and Development Department. The proposed guidelines for the Taxpayer Protection Amendment, which are being presented this evening under a separate report from the City Attorney, exempt ministerial approvals. Staff continues to work with the City Attorney's Office to define which approvals are ministerial and which are discretionary.

Based on the outcome of this assessment, staff will develop procedures to ensure compliance with the Charter. Staff will also explore the impacts from tracking information related to decisions made by commissions, including: Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Arts and Culture Commission, Design Commission, Historical Preservation Commission and Code Enforcement Commission. Each of these Commissions or Boards makes final decisions in some circumstances.

The second area that requires additional review is master or citywide contracts for purchases of supplies and/or services. It is anticipated the Purchasing Division of the Department of Finance will be responsible for tracking this information but until there is a more complete assessment of the impact, it is unknown whether additional resources will be needed. It is contemplated that some additional computer programming may be required.

Finally, staff is recommending that the City change the composition of the Subdivision Committee as established by Pasadena Municipal Code Chapter 16 in order to reduce the number of public officials subject to the limitations of the Taxpayer Protection Amendment.

Presently, the Subdivision Committee is made up of three staff positions: the City's Zoning Administrator, a representative from the Water and Power Department designated by the General Manager and a representative of the Public Works Department designated by the Director. The responsibility of this Committee is to make decisions related to the subdivision of real property in conformance with the provisions of the Subdivision Map Act of the State of California. The Committee's decisions may be appealed or called up to the City Council. The Committee meets monthly, usually for 1 to 3 hours. Staff is recommending that these responsibilities be transferred to a single hearing officer hired on contract.

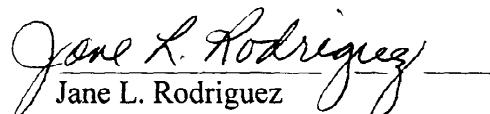
## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Approval of the recommendations will increase the Fiscal Year 2006 Operating Budget by \$112,150. Sufficient funding exists in the General Fund Unappropriated Balance to cover these costs. The City Manager's Account Number 141000 and the City Clerk's Account Number 261000 will be increased by total of \$92,150 (\$46,075 to each), which represents ten months of prorated salary for the Management Analyst IV as well as related equipment in the amount of \$1,450. For future years, the total annual salary for the Management Analyst IV will be requested (\$107,400).

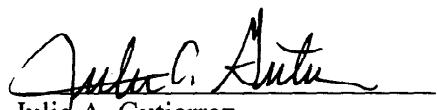
The remaining \$20,000 is generated by fees and will be allocated to the Planning and Development Department Account Number 444100-8115 to pay for Hearing Officer services.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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