

Agenda Report

DATE: June 14, 1999

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: WILLIAM BOGAARD, MAYOR

SUBJECT: COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD APPOINTMENTS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council direct the City Attorney to amend Title 2 of the Pasadena Municipal Code to reflect the changes in appointment authority listed in this report.

BACKGROUND:

I have reviewed the options provided by staff regarding the appointment opportunities on our advisory commissions, committees and boards. In general, my approach is to give the elected Mayor one direct appointment equal to the appointment power accorded other Council members and one "at-large" appointment. That maintains an odd number of members, that is nine instead of eight, and continues the practice of having "at-large" appointments for the Mayor.

In five cases, my proposal suggests a reduction in the number of members on grounds of uniformity. The five bodies are:

- Accessibility and Disability Commission
- Arts Commission
- Commission on the Status of Women
- Human Relations Commission
- Parks and Recreation Commission

For some commissions there is no change in the total number of members. A list of recommendations is attached.

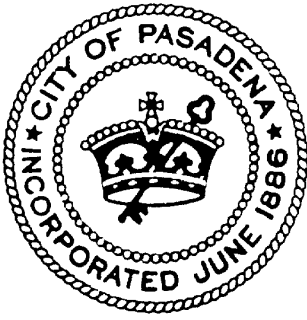
FISCAL IMPACT:

Some savings will be realized by reducing the number of appointees to commissions, committees and boards.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Bogaard" with a stylized flourish at the end.

William Bogaard,
Mayor



Agenda Report

DATE: June 14, 1999

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CYNTHIA J. KURTZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD APPOINTMENTS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve a policy to restructure appointment authority to city commissions, committees and boards to add Mayoral appointments while reducing the total number of members when possible and maintaining an uneven number of members.

BACKGROUND:

Given the recent city-wide mayoral election and the election of two new Council members from districts 4 and 6, the city's commission system will probably be facing its largest reappointment scenario in recent history. To this end, Council should consider the policy question of how commissioners are appointed and whether that is the practice best suited to the new Council environment in Pasadena. Specifically, Council needs to determine whether the newly elected Mayor will have commission appointments of his own, whether the practice of Mayoral appointments by district recommendation should continue, and, depending on the conclusions to those questions, whether the number of appointments to each commission should be reduced, enlarged or retained.

Staff prepared a matrix (Attachment A) which outlines the current makeup of each committee, commission and operating company to which Council makes appointments. Listed below the current makeup are possible options the Council could use depending on the approach to the policy issues listed above. Options include directly appointed Commissioners by the elected Mayor, retention or deletion of district recommended at-large Mayoral appointments etc. Where possible, staff noted the possibility of reducing of the number of seats simply to reduce the cost of supporting each commission.

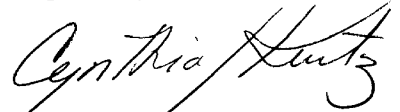
While staff has no specific recommendations on commissions, staff is recommending that when considering options to add Mayoral appointments, all commissions, committees and boards be kept at an uneven number of members to prevent a tie vote. In addition, staff is recommending

that the number of members be reduced where possible. For example, the Arts Commission currently has eleven members. Of the eleven, seven are appointed by individual Council members, and four are appointed at-large. Staff would recommend in this case that the number of at-large members be reduced, leaving this commission with nine members instead of eleven. It has been staff's experience that smaller commissions have fewer quorum problems and also require less mailing, copying and other related costs.

FISCAL IMPACT

A minimal savings may be realized by reducing the number of appointees to commissions, committees and operating companies. Beyond this, there is no fiscal impact associated with changing the process for appointments by the mayor.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia J. Kurtz,
City Manager

Prepared by:



Stephanie DeWolfe
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Approved by:



Robert K. Person
Assistant to the City Manager