

Option 4: Contract out all legal services, with the City Attorney being a representative of a law firm appointed by the City Council.

The majority of the Council subcommittee (two members) voted to recommend that the City Council approve Option 1, as slightly modified, as the preferred option for the governance of the City Attorney's Office, with the City Attorney and all staff being City employees. The City Attorney would also have discretion to authorize the use of specialized services by outside counsel, both for matters traditionally referred to outside counsel and for matters traditionally handled by in-house lawyers when deemed to be in the best interest of the City. For instance, this could occur if the City Attorney determines that in particular instances, it would be more efficient and effective to utilize specialized contract legal services rather than fill a vacant position. It is envisioned that the vast majority of services would continue to be provided by in-house staff and that utilization of outside legal services for areas traditionally handled in-house would be in the event of attrition, if appropriate, and not used to further reduce city attorney staff.

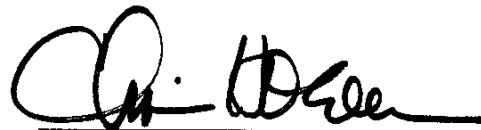
One member of the subcommittee preferred that the City retain the current situation; namely, Option 2, where the City Attorney is a partner in a law firm and the City contracts with the firm on a retainer basis to provide City Attorney services and those not handled by in-house staff (City employees).

Should the City Council concur, it would be appropriate for the City Council to agendaize discussion regarding the City Attorney appointment at a future meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Option 1, recommended by the subcommittee, is expected to result in a savings to the City of approximately \$133,000 for a fiscal year, when compared to Option 2, and a greater savings when compared to Option 3 or Option 4.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Holden", written over a horizontal line.

Chris Holden, Mayor