

MOTION

TRANSPORTATION

The City’s Planning related Boards and Commissions, comprised of the seven Area Planning Commissions, the City Planning Commission, the Cultural Heritage Commission, the 25 Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZ) Boards, the 12 Design Review Boards, and the Project Review Board, are instrumental in guiding community development, land use policies, connectivity, and historic preservation across the City. Similarly, the Transportation Commissions and Advisory Commissions are key in addressing mobility issues, parking, and traffic. These Boards and Commissions not only shape the physical landscape of neighborhoods but impact the general well-being of communities, including through potential displacement, affordable housing opportunities, environmental hazards, economic vitality, and access to critical resources such as open space, public services, and transportation. Given these Commissioners’ important roles in the City, it is imperative that all Board members and Commissioners are well-equipped with the knowledge and tools to make evidence-based and informed decisions.

The current training opportunities available during the onboarding process for Board members and Commissioners are limited. Commissioners are provided an orientation with a general overview of their role and responsibilities. However, some critical pieces are missing from the onboarding process, such as an opportunity to train Commissioners about their respective Commission’s authority and limitations, relevant City and State laws, and how to create findings for determinations. The City needs these training sessions to empower Commissioners to confidently serve in their role, ensuring their decisions contribute appropriately to all neighborhoods Citywide.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Planning Department, with the assistance of the City Clerk and City Administrative Office, and in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare a report with recommendations to enhance the City Planning Commission and Area Plan Commissions, Cultural Heritage Commission, Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) Board, the 12 Design Review Boards, and the Project Review Board Members’ land use/planning/historic preservation training and implementation skill set. The recommendations should delineate the existing training procedures for the abovementioned Commissioners/Board Members, and identify the existing training materials, including code of conduct, equity, and inclusion trainings, and best practices around training commissioners used by the State, County/other cities, Neighborhood Councils, or other government agencies that could be beneficial to the City’s Planning Boards and Commissions, and articulate new training procedures on fact finding and relevant government laws while implementing a timeline for training commissioners as part of the onboarding process and administering ongoing training opportunities for existing commissioners.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council instruct the Department of Transportation, with assistance of the City Clerk and City Administrative Officer, and in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare a report with recommendations to enhance the Transportation Commission, Taxicab Commission, Bicycle Advisory Committee, and Pedestrian Advisory Committee member training. The recommendations should delineate the existing training procedures for the Transportation Commission, Taxicab Commission, Bicycle Advisory Committee, and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and identify the existing training materials, including code of conduct, equity, and inclusion trainings, and best practices around training commissioners used by the State, County/other cities, Neighborhood Councils, or other government agencies that could be beneficial to the all the Transportation Commissions and Advisory Committees, and articulate new training procedures on fact finding and relevant government laws while implementing a timeline for training commissioners as part of the onboarding process and administering ongoing training opportunities for existing commissioners.

PRESENTED BY: 
EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

AUG 30 2024

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