



Memorandum

To: City Council

From: Ron Gonzales, Mayor

SUBJECT: Sunshine Task Force
Selection Process

DATE: April 17, 2006

Approved

Date

4/17/06

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve staff recommendations for the structure and selection process of the Sunshine Task Force with the following changes:

1. That the Mayor's appointment of a former mayor be dropped.
2. The Mayor, as a member of the City Council, shall participate in submitting names to the City Clerk in the categories where the Councilmembers are to make nominations.
3. That all members of this Sunshine Task Force must be San José registered voters.

BACKGROUND

As a member of the City Council, the Mayor should have a comparable role as his colleagues in the selection of potential members of the Sunshine Task Force in the various categories outlined in the structure proposed by the City Manager. By eliminating the specific former mayor category and adding the mayor's nominations to the other categories to be nominated by councilmembers, we can broaden the pool of potential Task Force members to be selected by lot.

As currently outlined by staff, the Mayor's options to recommend potential participants would be restricted to the category of former mayors, while councilmembers are asked to provide nominations in four categories: former councilmembers, board or commission members, neighborhood representatives, and an at-large member.

I also recommend that all members of the Task Force, in each category, must be a San Jose registered voter. In a city with nearly one million people that is so diverse and innovative, I am confident that we can find suitable people in San Jose who not only have the qualifications, interest, and time to take on this responsibility for a thoughtful deliberation of governmental processes, but also have a genuine stake in the outcomes that will be affected by the operations of our government as voters of San Jose.

These are the specific modifications to the City Manager's proposal for the Sunshine Task Force that I recommend:

1. ~~Mayor's appointment: The mayor would name a former mayor to the seat reserved for this position.~~ *[Mayor's recommendation is to eliminate this appointment altogether]*
2. Council appointments: Council *(including the Mayor)* would collectively make five appointments: *[Mayor's recommendation is to add the mayor to this part of the process as a member of the city council.]*
 - Two neighborhood seats: *Members of the Council, including the Mayor, each* ~~councilmember~~ would submit the name of one neighborhood representative from their District to the City Clerk, who would draw two names.
 - Former Councilmember: *Members of the Council, including the Mayor, each* ~~councilmember~~ would submit the name of one former councilmember to the City Clerk who would draw one name.
 - Boards & Commissions Representative: *Members of the Council, including the Mayor, each* ~~councilmember~~ would submit the name of one member of a City Board or Commission to the City Clerk, who would then draw one name.
 - One At-Large Representatives: *Members of the Council, including the Mayor, each* ~~councilmember~~ would submit the name of one at-large representative from their District to the City Clerk, who would draw one name.