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Study session for  
updates to  
Commission &  
Committees

Presentation

# Commissions and Committees

January 13, 2026



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# Options Regarding City Advisory Bodies

- Nepotism restrictions
- Vacancies and alternates
- Attendance requirements
- Commissioner autonomy
- Committees (Economic Development Committee and Audit Committee)

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# Nepotism Restrictions

Municipal Code and Council Procedures restrict appointments of:

- family members of City employees
- two members of the same family on an advisory body
- family members residing in the same household as a Councilmember



# Vacancies and Appointing Alternates

Vacancies can impact quorum; state law requires lengthy recruitments of at least 30 days to fill vacancies

Adding a non-voting alternate might help in two ways:

- Alternate can step in to vote when member is absent
- Alternate can fill vacancy when Council finds an “emergency” need



## Updating Attendance Requirements

- Commissioner's Handbook limits the number of absences; automatically removes a member who misses:
  - 3 consecutive meetings, or
  - 25% of regular meetings
- Council Procedures provide Council discretion over such removals



## Commissioner Autonomy

Commissioner's Handbook states it is improper for an individual Commissioner, acting in their official capacity, to try to persuade the Council to act against the recommendation of their Commission.

Is this restriction appropriate?



## Committees vs. Commissions

City Councilmembers, City staff, and sometimes both, participate as Committee Members

Commissions are usually comprised of only community members, with staff support

Perhaps rules for Committees and Commissions should vary





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