

**WAIVER OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL  
POLICY NO. 000-06 (APPOINTMENTS TO  
BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/ COMMITTEES)  
FOR APPOINTMENTS TO THE 2022 CHARTER  
REVIEW COMMITTEE**

City Council Meeting  
August 31, 2021

Sue Gallagher, City Attorney

# Introduction

On August 17, 2021, the Council established a Charter Review Committee comprised of twenty-one City residents, with each Council member to appoint three members to the Committee.

To facilitate diversity and community participation on that Committee, the Council expressed its desire to allow for waiver of certain requirements contained in Council Policy No. 000-06.

# Committee Membership

The Council expressed intent for the following:

- Variety of ages, races, ethnicity, gender, geography, interests and backgrounds
- Residents of the City
- Not limited by age or citizenship
- Flexibility to appoint members of other City boards, commissions or committees or those of other public agencies

# Issues

Current Council Policy No. 000-06 contains provisions contrary to the Council's preferences for the Charter Review Committee:

- Requirement for voter registration
- Prohibition against simultaneous appointment to City boards, commissions and committees
- Size of boards, commissions and committees

## Section B of Policy No. 000-06

Section B sets forth specific standards for appointment to a City board, commission or committee including:

- residency within City of Santa Rosa
- voter registration within City of Santa Rosa
- completion of an application
- except as provided by state or local statute, the appointee may not be a current City employee or currently appointed to another City Board or commission.

# Section B of Policy No. 000-06

Council seeks waiver of:

- Requirement for voter registration within Santa Rosa
  - Intent to allow appointment of non-citizens and/or residents under age 18
- Prohibition against appointment of individuals currently appointed to City Board or commission
  - Intent to recognize expertise and experience of individuals currently serving the City

# Section G.1 of Policy No. 000-06

Section G.1 of Policy No. 000-06, provides that City boards, commissions and committees shall be comprised of one appointee selected by each Council member.

Result is seven member board, commission or committee.

# Section G.1 of Policy No. 000-06

Council seeks waiver of Section G.1:

- Council has directed that this year's Charter Review Committee be comprised of twenty-one City residents, three appointees selected by each Council member
- Allows for broader and more diverse representation
- Consistent with past practice for Charter review



# Step 1: Amend Council Policy No. 000-06 to Allow for Waiver

To give the Council flexibility now and in the future, it is proposed that Council Policy 000-06 be amended to:

- Expressly authorize Council to waive provisions of that Policy as Council deems appropriate to enhance the diversity, inclusivity or expertise of a Charter Review Committee.
- Waiver allowed only for Charter Review Committees

## Step 2: Waive Three Provisions of Council Policy No. 000-06 for 2022 Charter Review

- With provision for waiver added to Policy No. 000-06, it is proposed that three provisions of Policy No. 000-06 be waived for purposes of the 2022 Charter Review Committee appointments only.

# Step 2: Waive Three Provisions of Council Policy No. 000-06 for 2022 Charter Review

Proposed waiver of:

- requirement for voter registration
- prohibition against appointment of current City employees and individuals currently serving on another City board or commission
- provision for seven-member boards, commissions and committees.

# Recommendation

It is recommended by the City Attorney's Office that the Council, by two separate resolutions: (1) amend Council Policy No. 000-06 to allow for waiver of requirements as deemed appropriate to enhance the diversity, inclusivity or expertise of a Charter Review Committee; and (2) provide for waiver of three provisions of Council Policy No. 000-06 with respect to the appointment of the 2022 Charter Review Committee.

**QUESTIONS?**