

Open Government Committee Scope and Purpose

2/17/09

Committee Membership

Chair: Council President Conlin

Vice Chair: Councilmember Bruce Harrell

Members: Councilmembers Sally Clark and Nick Licata

Scope and Purpose

The Open Government Committee has two purposes. One is to support the transparency of City Council decision making by improving citizens' access to public documents. The other is to improve communication between the Council and citizens about potential Council actions so that the Council can have the best possible understanding of citizens' views on those potential actions.

Potential Work Plan Items

1. Review Legislative Department and City procedures for responding to public records requests in light of State Auditor's recommendations. Consider an ordinance requiring every Department to have certain rules for responding to public disclosure requests.
2. Discuss the potential of an on-line Citizen Engagement Portal for informing and polling citizens on City legislative issues (among other purposes).
3. Review the Standard Operating Procedures adopted by Resolution 30096 for notices and hearings on certain major capital projects (known as CLEAN hearings).
4. Solicit and consider community suggestions for ensuring the transparency of Council decision making and improving communication between the Council and the public.
5. Per Resolution 31049, consider other policies related to open and participatory government, and consider possible Comprehensive Plan amendments on these.

Meeting Schedule

The Committee will meet from 9:30 to 11:00 AM on February 27, March 20, April 17, May 1 and June 5.