
OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST REPORT

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Redevelopment Agency Agenda Date: June 29, 2010

Item Number: 1

Designating the Mayor as Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency

On Tuesday, June 29, the Redevelopment Agency will be requested to extend the Mayor's designation as the Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency for an additional 12 months, through June 30, 2011. Following the passage of the Strong Mayor form of government, the Redevelopment Agency amended the Agency Bylaws on November 15, 2005 to designate the Mayor as the Executive Director. This designation has been extended six times since the initial action, and is currently set to expire on June 30, 2010.

Under the previous City Manager form of government, the Mayor presided over City Council meetings, and served as chair of the Redevelopment Agency. Pursuant to the Agency's Bylaws, the City Manager was designated as the Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency. With the transition to the Strong Mayor form of government, the Mayor no longer served as the Chair of the Redevelopment Agency, and instead assumed the authority, power and responsibilities of the City Manager. In order to create a role for the Mayor in redevelopment issues, the Agency designated the Mayor as Executive Director on a temporary basis until options for restructuring could be considered, and a more permanent role for the Mayor established.

A number of efforts have been undertaken in recent years to study the structure and governance of the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) including the long-term role of the Mayor in the City's redevelopment activities. In the summer of 2007 the Mayor's Charter Review Committee discussed this matter but ultimately deferred the item pending a determination on the permanency of the Strong Mayor form of government. From 2006-2008 Redevelopment Assistant Director Janice Weinrick worked extensively with the Redevelopment Agency to review alternative structures for delivering redevelopment

services. In April 2008 the “Agency Employee Model” was chosen by the Redevelopment Agency as the desirable structure. Implementation was delayed due to other pressing priorities including the City’s financial situation. The focus at the time turned to developing new operating agreements with the Redevelopment Agency which have since been adopted. The IBA’s Office also issued several reports during this time which discussed Redevelopment Agency organizational structures (IBA Report Numbers 06-31, 07-105, 08-37).

Now that the Strong Mayor form of government has been made permanent with the passage of Proposition C on June 8, the City and Agency should move forward in determining the appropriate role for the Mayor, as well as any restructuring of the Redevelopment Agency that may be needed or desired. We support the continued temporary extension of the Mayor’s designation as Executive Director while the City actively works towards developing and implementing permanent solutions. As a means of achieving progress, the Council may wish to consider holding a series of workshops or establishing a task force comprised of Mayor, Council and Agency representatives.

[SIGNED]

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