



# RULES COMMITTEE

## **Committee Members:**

**Council President Myrtle Cole, Chair**  
**Councilmember Mark Kersey, Vice Chair**  
**Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry**  
**Councilmember Christopher Ward**  
**Councilmember Chris Cate**

## Work Plan for 2018

The Committee on Rules addresses responsibilities that include the Charter, Rules of Council, open government, elections and ballot measures, annexations, boards and commissions, council-initiated matters, communications, customer service and public outreach.





**CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT MYRTLE COLE  
FOURTH COUNCIL DISTRICT**

**DATE:** January 29, 2018  
**TO:** Honorable City Councilmembers  
**FROM:** Council President Myrtle Cole *Myrtle Cole*  
**SUBJECT:** 2018 Rules Committee Priorities

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I appreciate the opportunity to share my 2018 priorities for the Committee on Rules. I look forward to working with the Committee to address important matters facing our city.

The Committee on Rules addresses responsibilities that include the Charter, Rules of Council, open government, elections and ballot measures, annexations, boards and commissions, council-initiated matters, communications, customer service and public outreach.

**Elections and Ballot Measures**

Review ballot measure proposals that will create additional permanent supportive housing units and help address our city's homeless and affordable housing crisis.

**Review Charter Amendments**

Review amendments approved in 2017 to ensure that the accompanying San Diego Municipal Codes are also updated to reflect the amendments. For instance, in November 2016 the voters approved Proposition G, an initiative that amended the City Charter that changed the name of the Citizens' Review Board on Police Practices to Community Review Board on Police Practices. However, one year later the San Diego Municipal Code has not been updated to reflect the change. An ordinance to update the San Diego Municipal Code was discussed at the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee on April 26, 2017 however, no ordinance has been presented to date.

**Review and Update of Rules of Council**

Provide ongoing oversight to ensure that Rules of Council are current, effective, necessary, and compliant.

**Review City's Boards and Commissions**

At the June 7, 2017 Rules Committee, the Office of the City Auditor presented an informational report entitled "Performance Audit of the City's Management of its Advisory Boards. Mayor's staff agreed with the audit findings. Additionally, Mayor's staff stated that they would work with Council President's staff specifically as it relates to the 45 day rule and the accompanying Council Policy 00013. The 45-day rule allows councilmembers the authority to appointment a member to a board or commission. However, there is no clear process or implementation regarding the 45-day rule, including the vetting process. It is important for the Committee to hear an update of the progress of the recommendations agreed to by the Mayor's office to ensure the boards and commissions continue to perform their intended functions and services to the city.

**Customer Service**

Receive an update from the Performance and Analytics Department regarding the program, Get it Done. Determine if the program is meeting its goals and objectives, overall customer experience, the expansion of the program, and how the information captured by Get It Done is being used to determine budget allocations.


Please feel free to contact my Committee Consultant, Marisa Berumen, at 619.533.5906 about this request or any matter concerning the Committee.

cc: Honorable City Attorney Mara Elliott  
Andrea Tevlin, Independent Budget Analyst  
Felipe Monroig, Mayor's Office  
Liz Maland, City Clerk



City of San Diego  
**MARK KERSEY**  
CITY COUNCILMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** January 26, 2018  
**TO:** Council President Myrtle Cole, Chair, Committee on Rules  
**FROM:** Councilmember Mark Kersey   
**RE:** 2018 Rules Committee Priorities

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In response to your memorandum, I respectfully submit the following item as my priority for the Rules Committee in 2018:

**Council Office Budget Parity.** The current process for setting annual Council office budgets is inequitable and illogical. In the time that I have served on the Council, the discrepancy between district allocations has been as great as 34% in a single fiscal year.

To address this ongoing disparity, I have proposed an amendment to the San Diego City Charter that would require the office budgets for all nine Council districts to be equal, beginning in Fiscal Year 2020. At my request, Chair Cole graciously agreed to docket this item at a meeting of the Rules Committee for placement on the ballot in 2018.





## CITY OF SAN DIEGO

### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 29, 2018

**TO:** Council President Myrtle Cole, Chair, Rules Committee

**FROM:** Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry *Barbara Bry*

**SUBJECT:** Rules Committee Priorities for 2018

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I would appreciate the Rules Committee addressing the following issues in 2018.

*San Diego Unified School District Board Elections:*

The San Diego Unified School District is organizing and will conduct community forums this spring to listen to suggestions aimed at reforming its Board elections. The District intends to report to the Rules Committee as its work progresses, and make recommendations no later than the June 13<sup>th</sup> Rules Committee. I urge the Committee to consider the community's and District's recommendations with the intention of placing School Board election reforms on the ballot this November.

*Charter Section 225, Mandatory Disclosure of Business Interests:*

It has been generally agreed since the voters approved Charter Section 225 in 1992 that it is written too broadly, and as a result, is practically unenforceable. January 9, 2018, the City Council approved an ordinance requiring as much disclosure of business interests as possible under the current reading of Section 225. The Charter Section's language now needs to be revised to make its disclosure requirements as enforceable as intended in 1992. I ask the Rules Committee to consider revised language for Charter Section 225 in preparation for this November's ballot. If the voters approve more enforceable language for Section 255, the City Council can then return to the companion ordinance in 2019 and revise it again to mirror that better enforceability.

BB/srh

cc: Marisa Berumen, Rules Committee Consultant







**OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTOPHER WARD  
THIRD COUNCIL DISTRICT**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

DATE: January 4, 2018

TO: Council President Myrtle Cole, Chair, Rules Committee

FROM: Councilmember Christopher Ward, Third Council District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CR Ward", written over the printed name of Councilmember Christopher Ward.

SUBJECT: Rules Committee Priorities for 2018

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In response to your request for priorities for the Rules Committee, I offer the following suggestions as we develop our work plan:

*Elections and Ballot Measures*

- Last year, the City Council approved amendments to Council Policy 000-21: *Submission of Ballot Proposals* to provide sufficient time for consideration of proposals. The committee must prioritize and have adequate time to fully engage in the process and actively participate in the vetting of potential ballot measures for the upcoming 2018 elections. Additionally, the committee, in partnership with the Offices of the City Attorney, Clerk and Independent Budget Analyst should work to standardize the process and formats by which ballot measures are submitted to Council for review. This will ensure that adequate information is provided and will also enable the Council/Council Committee to provide policy direction and request legal analysis as necessary.

*Customer Service, Open Government, and Public Outreach*

- The committee should be provided updates from the Performance and Analytics Department regarding progress towards the development of a 311 system as well as the performance, status and expansion opportunities of other customer service applications such as the Get It Done Program.
- The committee should to increase the functionality of the City Council's constituent services database Intranet Quorum (IQ) or a competitor product. Opportunities exist to improve communication and timely resolutions to casework, increase public access, automate service status updates, and more.
- In an effort to provide a more efficient and transparent government, the committee should explore opportunities to make information about City operations and projects more readily available, up-to-date and useful to members of the public. Specifically, resident

notification for city projects affecting neighborhoods and businesses should be uniform across all departments including a city point-of-contact, project scope, duration, etc.

*Boards and Commissions*

- The committee should continue the work initiated in previous years to:
  - Improve the appointment process, including standardizing staff support and training for boards and commissions;
  - Explore requesting annual work plans and regular reporting requirements, for example quarterly or semiannual reports;
  - Review all the City boards and commissions, including those that are inactive, to ensure they continue to perform their intended functions and service to the City;
  - Assess each board and commission based on its function and benefit to either policy making or City operations;
  - Look into whether some boards and commissions could be consolidated or reorganized to be more effective, including the consideration of their size;
  - Explore ways to standardize staff support;
  - Consider training for board and commission members.

Thank you for your consideration of these priorities. If you have any questions please contact my office at (619) 236-6633.


cc:

Marisa Berumen, Rules Committee Consultant



**COUNCILMEMBER CHRIS CATE  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
SIXTH DISTRICT**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**DATE:** January 5, 2018  
**TO:** Council President Cole, Chair, Committee on Rules  
**FROM:** Councilmember Chris Cate   
**SUBJECT:** 2018 Committee on Rules Committee Priorities

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I appreciate the opportunity to share my goals and priorities for 2018. I look forward to working collaboratively to move toward a more efficient, effective, and transparent San Diego to provide the best quality of life possible for our citizens.

**Short-Term Vacation Rental Ballot Measure**

Over the past three years, the topic of Short-Term Vacation Rentals and Home-Sharing has received over 30 hours of public comment from various committee hearings, community group forums, and full City Council meetings. Despite this effort, the City Council has failed to pass an ordinance to bring clarity, consistency, and certainty to the Short-Term Vacation Rental industry. During the course of this public process, the Council has agreed on multiple occasions that the STR industry should be regulated with a strong enforcement framework and not be banned in the City. Due to the City's inability to take action on this topic the Council should consider a ballot measure to define, regulate, and tax the Short-Term Vacation Rental industry in the City of San Diego.

**Amend Council District Community Programs, Projects, and Services (CPPS) Policy**

CPPS allocations for City Council offices are currently determined by office budgetary savings accrued from the prior fiscal year. Annual CPPS allocations can vary by office depending on employee retirement benefits, compensation, and non-personnel expenditures. In recent years, the City Council has witnessed an increasing discrepancy in office budgets largely due to budgetary revisions based on fringe benefits. This discrepancy has negatively impacted some office budgets and thus decreased available CPPS funding. The Committee should consider revising Council Policy 100-06 to establish an equal allocation for Council districts within the Mayor's Proposed Budget.

### **Consider Additional Local Election Reforms to Increase Voter Participation**

As a result of San Diego voters approving Measures K and L in 2016, the City of San Diego has drastically changed its local election process with regard to ballot measures and candidate elections. These reforms were advocated by a constituency that hoped to decrease the influence of money in local political races and increase voter participation through the elimination of an outright winner in municipal primary elections. However, these ballot measures will maintain a June primary election, thus ensuring a longer campaign season that will require continual financial support and solicitation. Furthermore, June primary voters will have the ability to decide the top two vote-getters, continuing the influence over November-only voters who are forced to decide between one of the two pre-determined candidates. This Committee should consider subsequent ballot measures that will address these outstanding issues through: eliminating an unnecessary June primary and instituting Ranked Choice in November general elections. Ranked Choice provides voters the opportunity to rank candidates in order of preference until one secures a majority after the conclusion of multiple voting rounds. This voting model would give San Diegans the ability to choose from a wider selection of candidates in a single general election, thus increasing voter participation and eliminating an unnecessary primary.

### **Proposed Amendments to City Charter Article VI, Section 66**

March 21, 2017, the City Council was presented with an item to amend City Charter Article VI, Section 66 concerning the Board of Education. These amendments would have instituted term limits and district-specific elections for San Diego Unified School Board members, bringing much-needed accountability and voter efficacy to this government body. Furthermore, the City Council on October 16, 2017, unanimously agreed with a Grand Jury report that made this same assertion. In light of this recent vote, it is incumbent upon the Rules Committee to docket this item for further discussion to be put before the voters in November 2018.

### **Establish a Minimum Standard for Public Outreach and Notification of City Projects**

Increasing communication with the public about City construction projects taking place in their communities that have the potential to affect their daily lives is critical to maintaining good relationships with the public, and ensuring a great quality of life for San Diegans. Currently, each City department has their own standards and manners in which they provide information to the public about upcoming projects. This committee should work with City departments that schedule, execute, and manage construction projects, as well as the Communications Department to establish uniform communication collateral materials, and a minimum standard of required outreach and communication efforts to the public about projects affecting their neighborhoods.

### **Explore Existing Standards of Customer Service Within City Departments**

The City of San Diego has a duty to provide its residents with a high level of customer service and information availability. It would be prudent for this committee to request information and reports from City staff in departments that actively interact with customers to determine what standards for customer service are currently in place, and how well those standards are being met. Additionally, receiving a report from the Performance and Analytics Department regarding any data collected on customer service would be helpful in aiding this discussing and the effort to provide the highest possible level of customer service to San Diego residents.

CC:jeh