Council Member Casar Recommended Committee Revisions

Recommended Council actions:

1. A resolution that addresses the Council's desired purpose for committees.
2. Amendments to the Council committee ordinance.

Proposed Resolution would state:

A. The purpose of Council committees is to delegate a limited number of complex policy discussions to small groups (committees) that can unpack complicated issues or issues in dispute to generate useful policy solutions;

B. Council committees should also proactively craft policy on major city-wide issues;

C. Council committees can be a vehicle for taking public input early in the policy-making process if the committee believes that more early input would be helpful.

D. Committees should not be used for postponements—if Council desires more time, then Council Members are encouraged to discuss postponements at Work Session.

E. The Council assumes that items from the City Manager will go to Council, not directly to committee.

The ordinance would state:

A. Items must be sponsored by a majority of committee members to be placed on the committee's agenda.

B. Each committee of the Council will consist of 3 Council Members, instead of 4, with the exception of the AE Oversight Committee.

C. Recommendations from committee need to follow the same posting timeline as items from Council.

D. Public comment on items heard by committees should be extended beyond the current cap at Council. Public comment should have a standard cap at committee. Standardize as much as possible for transparency and predictability.

   o Except as required by law, the standard amount of public comment on an item will be _ hour(s) of public comment for an item at committee and _ hour(s) of public comment for an item at Council.

E. The Council assumes that items from Council Members that go straight to the Council agenda are not bypassing committee. Council Members have the ability to post items to the Council agenda with 4 sponsors. Committees may decide if they wish to deliberate on items that are before Council.