

Late Backup

Goals and Concerns:

I'd suggest that we begin the conversation with the goals we're trying to achieve. The following are the goals that I believe we worked from for our initial work and we could add/delete/change as is the will of the Council. Once we agree on the objectives, hopefully we can fashion the next iteration of our processes to try to best meet them.

1. Increase the time and logistic opportunities for council to study, deliberate on, and evolve concepts and proposals (with public and staff).
2. Encourage earlier and more meaningful public input.
3. Facilitate and help make more efficient staff work and their workload
4. Enable council's proactive focus on big issues (vs. reactive work).
5. Develop some greater measure of substance expertise among individual council members.
6. Divide, delegate and assign the workload to a subpart of council to lessen individual CM load overall (as appropriate for some issues).

To these goals, I would suggest adding:

1. Make a better use of, and engage, the boards and commissions.
2. Lessen council member and staff time in meetings by discussing policy issues earlier in the process.
3. Focus on specific initiatives that council members want to work on (short or limited duration task force work).
4. Preserve the existing committees where there is continued interest: at least the Audit and Finance Committee (as required by Charter) and there appears to be interest in at least continuing the Mobility Committee.
5. All committees and task forces would have a clear statement of their purpose, issues to address, duration, and relationship to Council (e.g. bring info back re xyz)