



Joint Inclusion Committee Recommendation 20190626-04A

Date: June 26, 2019

Subject: Recommendations to City Manager and Budget Office Regarding Community Engagement on City Budget (“Budget Town Hall Meetings”)

Motioned By: Commissioner Bope

Seconded By: Commissioner Gomez

Recommendation

The Joint Inclusion Committee recommends continuation of the Community Budget Engagement meetings. For the first time the Quality of Life and other Joint Inclusion Commissions were able to engage directly with the community. The meetings were valuable to commissions in crafting and supporting budget recommendations. At least two recommendations came directly from the community engagement.

Based on the experience of each commission, the Joint Inclusion Committee makes following recommendations for next year’s engagement meetings:

Description of Recommendation to Council

- Start the planning process earlier; hold sessions in late February/early March, prior to Spring Break and SouthbySouthwest. Ensure meetings do not take place on same date.
- Continue to let each Commission decide how to organize the events.
- Provide better clarity on organization of the meetings (commissions noted confusion over whether a quorum was required; who was responsible for note-taking; whether both conversations and written notes were transcribed; commissions reported getting different instructions)
- Provide commissions with a list of potential locations; try to cover all parts of the city and have good access to transit (we noted that all 2019 meetings were north of the river).
- Provide transportation options for those who cannot drive or use transit; the Parks and Recreation Department transportation for the Seniors Commission worked well and resulted in large attendance.
- Allow time for general discussion/open discussion; provide cards for people to leave comments.
- Consider ways to make the city priorities and indicators more understandable to participants.
- Find ways to continue engagement throughout the year; consider a Town Hall during the Fall sponsored by the Joint Inclusion Committee.
- Plan for interpretations and translations (examples, minimize noise in the room and interference from equipment)
- Consider more ways to publicize the events to target communities.

Vote 6-0

For: Briesemeister, Bope, Solis, Gomez, Smith, Stanton

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Orlowski, Chavez

Attest:



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Brown", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and extends to the right of the line.