



COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP REFORM

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Land Use & Housing Committee

March 10, 2022

OVERVIEW

Council Policy 600-09

Community Planners Committee - 1975

Council Policy 600-24

Standard Operating Procedures and Responsibilities of Recognized Community Planning Groups - 1976

OVERVIEW

Actions taken 2018-2019

- 2018 – Performance Audit of CPGs
- 2018 – Grand Jury report on CPGs
- 2019 – City Attorney legal analysis of CPGs
- 2019 – Land Use & Housing review
- 2019 – CPC offers recommendations
- 2020 – City Attorney DRAFT revisions to CP 600-24

2019 CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

“There is some ambiguity in certain language of CP 600-24 that may create confusion as to the City’s legal relationship with CPGs, and we recommend that this relationship be clarified noting CPGs are not City-created bodies, but independent legal entities.”

“Further, the City should maintain a clear separation from the governance of CPGs.”

OPTIONS FOR AMENDING CP 600-24

- Amend Council Policy 600-24 and Municipal Code to make CPGs independent advisory bodies
- Amend the Charter and require financial disclosure requirements, which would require a vote of the people
- Comply with the Charter requiring political appointments of CPG voting members, create ordinances for each board, and institute financial disclosure requirements
- Or, do nothing and subject City to legal liability

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Amend CP 600-24 to comply with the City Charter, better reflect the independent legal status of CPGs while maintaining their recognition by the City Council as advisory bodies
 - Retain the 500+ community volunteers currently serving
 - Improve opportunities for broader community representation
 - Allow for an effective and supportive use of City resources
 - Amend CP 600-09

WHAT WILL NOT CHANGE

- CPGs can still be recognized and indemnified by the City
- CPGs continue to make agendas and documents publicly available in conformance with Brown Act
- CPG voting members will continue to be elected by those who live, own property, or own a business in the community
- CPGs retain the ability to provide organized feedback on General Plan related issues, development projects, and infrastructure priorities
- Training on Brown Act and project review provided by the City

PROPOSED CHANGES

- CPGs will take ownership of their own official documents
- CPGs will be required to make agendas and documents publicly available in conformance with Brown Act
- Encourage CPGs to designate seats for renters, stakeholders and business representatives and to ensure voting members are representative of their community
- Remove "meeting attendance" restrictions on who can vote in annual elections and who can run for a voting seat

MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENTS*

- §86.0104 Angle Parking
- §98.0510 Project Selection and Disbursement of Funds
- §112.0503 Process Two Decisions
- §112.0602 Process CIP/Public Project-Two
- §157.0203 Gaslamp Quarter Development Permit Procedures

*Amendments recommended for approval by Planning Commission, 7-0, 1/20/22

OUTREACH / ACTIONS TO DATE

- Mid-November: Release of draft policies
- November 30th: Presentation at CPC
- January 20th: Planning Commission
- January 25th: 2nd Presentation at CPC
- February 22nd: CPC Discussion, no action
- Iterative: Updates to policy

CONCERNS RAISED

- Stipends
- City Staff at CPC meetings
- CPG meetings at City Facilities
- New templates
- Attendance requirements
- Required bank account
- Brown Act clarity
- Independent CPG websites
- Two-year break in service
- Indemnification – Legal, physical
- Voting requirements
- CPG demographic data
- MAD recognition
- Annual training
- Appeals

AMENDMENTS IN RESPONSE

- Continued stipends to CPGs (FY23 secured)
- New stipend for CPC (FY23 secured)
- Continue City Staffing at CPC meetings
- City meeting spaces available without charge on case-by-case basis
- City provided templates for required attachments
- Can continue as local advisory for Maintenance Assessment District
- Checking accounts provided to CPGs through City's corporate partnership
- Voting requirements clarified
- Initial draft edited for clarity
- City website: <https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community-plans/cpg/agendas>
- Brown Act requirements

NEXT STEPS

- Return to Land Use & Housing for action
- City Council hearing
- 6 months – 1 year after: CPGs seek recognition under the updated CP 600-24 by filing organizational documents
- Winter 2022: City Council hearing to grant recognition under updated CP 600-24

CPG RECOGNITION

To seek City Council recognition, CPGs must submit:

- Revised bylaws which conform to CP 600-24 update and include:
 - Election procedures
 - Ethical standards (*Guidelines provided*)
 - Community Participation and Representation Plan (*Template provided*)

QUESTIONS?

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