

BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL AGENDA & RULES COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021

2:30 P.M.

Committee Members:

Mayor Jesse Arreguin, Councilmembers Sophie Hahn and Susan Wengraf

Alternate: Councilmember Lori Droste

PUBLIC ADVISORY: THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE

Pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, this meeting of the City Council Agenda & Rules Committee will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. Please be advised that pursuant to the Executive Order, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, there will not be a physical meeting location available.

To access the meeting remotely using the internet: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Use URL <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87060954994>. If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop down menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the "raise hand" icon on the screen.

To join by phone: Dial **1-669-900-9128 or 1-877-853-5257 (Toll Free)** and Enter Meeting ID: **870 6095 4994**. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

Written communications submitted by mail or e-mail to the Agenda & Rules Committee by 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the Committee meeting will be distributed to the members of the Committee in advance of the meeting and retained as part of the official record. City offices are currently closed and cannot accept written communications in person.

Roll Call: 2:34 p.m. All present.

Public Comment – 2 speakers

Referred Items for Review

1. Recommendations on Policy Committees and Legislative Workflow during COVID-19 Local Emergency

From: Mayor Arreguin

Recommendation: Request that the City Manager prepare an amendment to Resolution No. 69,331-N.S. "Ratifying the Recommendations Issued by the Director of Emergency Services and the Public Health Officer Regarding Meetings of Berkeley Legislative Bodies in Response to the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Pandemic" and accompanying amendments to the City Council Rules of Procedure and Order to: 1) Adopt temporary rules limiting Policy Committee and City Council consideration of new significant legislation after the effective date of the resolution (March 30, 2021). "New significant legislation" is defined as any proposed ordinance, resolution or Council item to adopt a new law, program, or policy. Any legislation relating to our city's COVID-19 response, the FY 2022 City Budget process or essential time sensitive business will be allowed to move forward through the Policy Committee process and to Council. This would also include substantive recommendations from Boards and Commissions; 2) Non-substantive and time sensitive items will be allowed to be placed directly on a City Council agenda; 3) New significant legislation will be referred to the appropriate Policy Committee and stay on their unscheduled items list. Timelines for committee action will be tolled during this period; 4) Policy Committees will take up all items already referred and in committee. Policy Committees will be asked to prioritize whether pending items relate to the city's COVID-19 response, the City budget process or essential time sensitive business. If the Policy Committee does not have any outstanding items then the Policy Committee will not be allowed to meet; 5) The Agenda & Rules Committee and Budget & Finance Policy Committee will be allowed to continue to meet to carry out their essential agenda setting and budget policy making roles; 6) Any outstanding items voted out of Policy Committee should conform to the recommendations put forward by the City Manager in the "Systems Realignment Proposal" to include a referral for an analysis of staff and budgetary impacts, and a budget referral so that the costs of implementation can be considered as part of the City's annual budget process. Unless implementation can be achieved in the short-term, the implementation of new ordinances or policies will be deferred until after the state of emergency or resources are identified and allocated; 7) If resources are not allocated in the FY 22 budget process for implementation of the new policy or program, it be referred to the new Systems Realignment process for future review and budget consideration; 8) These temporary rules would expire at the end of the declared local state of emergency regarding the COVID-19 pandemic or until such time the City Council suspends this policy.

Contact: Jesse Arreguin, Mayor, (510) 981-7100

Action: 2 speakers. Councilmembers Wengraf and Hahn added as co-sponsors. The Committee discussed the revision submitted by Councilmember Hahn and made amendments. M/S/C (Arreguin/Hahn) to send the amended version of Councilmember Hahn's submission to the City Manager and request that the City Manager return to the full Council with an item on April 20, 2021 that incorporates the new policy into the City Council Rules of Procedure.

Vote: All Ayes.

2. Systems Realignment Proposal (Contains Supplemental Material)

From: City Manager

Recommendation: Review and discuss the City Manager's proposal to create improvements to enhance the effectiveness of the City Council legislative and budget processes. Provide feedback for staff to develop a recommendation for full Council consideration.

Contact: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager, (510) 981-7000

Action: 1 speaker. The Committee discussed the City Manager's proposal and provided suggestions and revisions. The Mayor will compile the Committee changes and submit a revised version of the item for the April 5, 2021 Agenda & Rules Committee meeting.

Items for Future Agendas

- None

Adjournment

Action: M/S/C (Arreguin/Wengraf) to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: All Ayes.

Adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the Agenda & Rules Committee meeting held on March 22, 2021.

Mark Numainville
City Clerk

Communications

Communications submitted to City Council Policy Committees are on file in the City Clerk Department at 2180 Milvia Street, 1st Floor, Berkeley, CA, and are available upon request by contacting the City Clerk Department at (510) 981-6908 or policycommittee@cityofberkeley.info.