




Office of the City Manager

ACTION CALENDAR  
January 22, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From:  Christine Daniel, City Manager  
Submitted by: Mark Numainville, Acting City Clerk  
Subject: Potential Locations for City Council Meetings – Alternate Locations with Larger Capacity

RECOMMENDATION

Review the potential alternate locations to hold City Council meetings when additional capacity may be desired and provide direction to the Agenda Committee on preferred locations.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Moderate additional staff time related to set up and break down of temporary meeting locations. Potentially significant costs if additional meeting and broadcast infrastructure is added to alternate meeting locations.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The room capacity of the Council Chambers at the Maudelle Shirek Building is 123 persons. At times, the number of people attending meetings has exceeded room capacity.

At the meeting of July 17, 2012, the Council referred an item to the Agenda Committee related to scheduling some Council meetings at alternate venues with a larger capacity than Old City Hall.

On August 27, 2012, the Agenda Committee directed staff to present alternatives to the full Council for discussion.

BACKGROUND

The potential locations for Council meetings are listed below with a brief recap of the analysis that was previously performed by City staff.

None of the alternate locations accommodate teleconferencing or off-site captioning.

Longfellow Middle School Auditorium

Currently, Longfellow school is the primary alternate meeting location for the City Council. The Council has met at this location at least three times in the past three years. It is the only alternate location with live broadcast ability. Room capacity is 400 persons. There may be a higher degree of impacts on residents in the area, and the location is served only by AC Transit.

Schwimley Little Theater/ Berkeley Community Theater

Both locations at Berkeley High School lack live broadcast ability, and there does not appear to be adequate conference room space. They are centrally located and easily accessible by transit. The capacity of the Little Theater is 600 persons, and the capacity of the Community Theater is 3000 persons.

North Berkeley Senior Center Multi Purpose Room

The Senior Center does not have live broadcast ability. Room capacity is 240. This facility is also adjacent to a residential area and may have some traffic and noise impacts. The Senior Center is centrally located and close to transit. It is a City-owned location which would facilitate scheduling, and potentially allow the City to install and maintain permanent infrastructure.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Continue to hold all meetings at Old City Hall.

CONTACT PERSON

Mark Numainville, Acting City Clerk, 981-6900

Attachments:

- 1: January 17, 2012 Council Report on Alternate Locations
- 2: June 26, 2012 Council Report on Alternate Locations