



RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Board Memorandum

TO: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

DATE: JULY 8, 2024

FROM: CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT

ISSUE:

Conduct the annual review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct (Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 2.78) and forward any recommended revisions to the Board of Ethics for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Public Utilities:

1. Review the Code of Ethics and Conduct; and
2. Forward any recommendations to the Board of Ethics for consideration.

BACKGROUND:

Riverside Municipal Code (RMC) Chapter 2.78 established a Code of Ethics and Conduct for elected officials and members of appointed boards, commissions, and committees. The annual review is identified in RMC 2.78.110 – Monitoring and oversight as follows:

- A. Prior to the end of July of each year, the boards and commissions shall agendaize and discuss at a regular meeting this Code of Ethics and Conduct and submit to the Board of Ethics any recommendations for the Board's consideration.
- B. Prior to the end of August of each year, the Board of Ethics shall agendaize and discuss at a regular meeting the effectiveness of this Code of Ethics and Conduct, recommendations of the other boards and commissions, and submit to the Governmental Processes Committee its recommendations.

DISCUSSION:

Municipal Code 2.78 regarding the Code of Ethics and Conduct for elected officials and members of appointed boards, commissions, and committees is attached for review. Any recommendations should be submitted to the Board of Ethics no later than July 31, 2024.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This item contributes to **Strategic Priority No. 5 – High Performing Government** and **Goal 5.3** – Enhance communication and collaboration with community members to improve transparency, build public trust and encourage shared decision-making.

This item aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – Open discussion of the Code of Ethics and Conduct is transparent, the involvement of the City Boards and Commissions and public input creates sound policy, and inclusive community engagement builds community trust.
2. **Equity** – Discussion of the Code of Ethics and Conduct helps to ensure that City's commitment to advancing the fairness of treatment, recognition of rights, and equitable distribution of services to ensure every member of the community has equal access to share in the benefits of community progress.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – Discussion of the Code Ethics and Conduct helps ensure that Riverside is a prudent steward of public funds.
4. **Innovation** – Discussion of the Code of Ethics and Conduct opens the door for innovative thinking and new ideas in this process.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – Discussion of the Code Ethics and Conduct supports Riverside's commitment to be a resilient City that will persevere, adapt, and grow.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Donesia Gause
Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. RMC 2.78 – Code of Ethics and Conduct
2. Presentation