



City of Arts & Innovation

Budget Engagement Commission Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: MAY 11, 2023**

FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE **WARDS: ALL**

SUBJECT: BUDGET ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP REDUCTION

ISSUE:

Review and discuss the recommendation to amend Chapter 2.90 of the Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.90.030 to reduce the membership of the Budget Engagement Commission.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Budget Engagement Commission:

1. Consider an amendment to Chapter 2.90 Section 2.90.030 of the Riverside Municipal Code to reduce the membership of the Budget Engagement Commission to 7 Ward seats and 4 Citywide seats for a total of 11 members with Resident and Business seat appointments at the discretion of the appointing elected official; and
2. Forward recommendations to the Inclusiveness, Community Engagement and Processes Committee for consideration.

BACKGROUND:

On January 10, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance 7363, establishing a Budget Engagement Commission by amending Title 2 of the Riverside Municipal Code by adding Chapter 2.90. Section 2.90.030 Membership states, "A. Number. The Budget Engagement Commission shall be composed of eighteen members consisting of: (1) Nine resident members, seven nominated by each of the Council members to represent each of the City's wards, and two Citywide nominations made by the Mayor; and (2) Nine business members, seven nominated by each of the Council members to represent a business located in any ward in the City, and two Citywide nominations made by the Mayor."

DISCUSSION:

Since the inception of the Budget Engagement Commission in 2017, there has been a consistent lack of applications in the pool to fill vacancies specifically for the Business seats. Several meetings are cancelled due to lack of quorum because of vacancies and absences. The Budget Engagement Commission did not meet in the months of February, March, and April of 2023 due to vacancies. The City of Riverside would benefit from the membership reduction because it will

reduce the number of members that constitute a quorum, thereby ensuring that the Budget Engagement Commission can conduct meetings as scheduled. The current appointed membership consists of seven resident and five business seat members for a total of twelve out of 18 members.

Commissioner Benavidez requested that the Budget Engagement consider membership reduction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Requested by:	Pete Benavidez, Budget Engagement Commissioner
Prepared by:	Diana Alegria, Deputy City Clerk
Certified as to availability of funds:	Edward Enriquez, Interim Assistant City Manager/Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Mike Futrell, City Manager
Approved as to form:	Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney