

Riverside
Public Library

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July 29, 2015

Governmental Affairs Committee
Andy Melendrez, Chair
3900 Main Street, 7th Floor
Riverside, CA 92501

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AUG 03 2015

City of Riverside
City Clerk's Office

Re: Code of Ethics and Conduct Annual Review

Dear Chair Melendrez and Committee Members:

In accordance with the City's upcoming Code of Ethics and Conduct Annual Review, the Board of Library Trustees, discussed the Code of Ethics at our regular meeting on July 24, 2015. It was the consensus of the Trustees that the City Council encourage the ad hoc Code of Ethics review committee finish its analysis and recommendations as soon as possible. Further, that the ethics complaint review process not include any members of standing boards and commissions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Tom Evans
Chair, Board of Library Trustees

cc: John Russo, City Manager
Alexander Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Al Zelinka, Assistant City Manager
Deanna Lorson, Assistant City Manager
Colleen Nicol, City Clerk

Downtown
3581 Mission Inn Ave.
Riverside, CA 92501
951.826.5201

Arianza
8267 Philbin Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503
951.689.0389

Arlington
9556 Magnolia Ave.
Riverside, CA 92503
951.689.6612

Casa Blanca
2985 Madison St.
Riverside, CA 92504
951.826.2120

Eastside
4033-C Chicago Ave.
Riverside, CA 92507
951.684.8347

La Sierra
4600 La Sierra Ave.
Riverside, CA 92505
951.688.7740

Marcy
6927 Magnolia Ave.
Riverside, CA 92506
951.826.2078

Orange Terrace
20010-B Orange
Terrace Pkwy.
Riverside, CA 92508
951.571.0281

Subject:

FW: Code of Ethics and Conduct Annual Review: Letters to Chairs

From: Amir-Blake, Monica

Sent: Monday, August 10, 2015 10:01 AM

To: Nicol, Colleen

Cc: Boyd, Tom; Hernandez, Gilbert; Verduco, Lorena

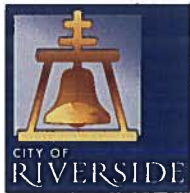
Subject: RE: Code of Ethics and Conduct Annual Review: Letters to Chairs

Good Morning Colleen,

The Transportation Board briefly discussed the Code of Ethics and Conduct Annual Review at their meeting held on Wednesday, August 5. The Board did not have any comments for the Governmental Affairs Committee at that time, but we extended the opportunity to provide feedback by encouraging Members to email any comments they may have prior to the September 2nd meeting.

Thank you,

Monica Amir-Blake
951-826-5366



City of Arts & Innovation

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**City of Riverside
City Clerk's Office**

August 8, 2015

Dear Council Members:

In preparation for the review by the City Council Governmental Affairs Committee, the Board of the Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) discussed the Code of Ethics and Conduct at its August 7, 2015 meeting. The RPU Board recognizes that Resolution No. 22461 is currently under review by a special committee. That being the case, the RPU Board has chosen to submit the same suggested modifications it provided to the City Council at the last review, as they are still relevant.

1. The chairs of boards and commissions should not be used as members of hearing panels.
2. There needs to be adequate grievance processes for city employees, other than their utilization of the Code of Ethics procedures.

The RPU Board has chosen to also submit an additional recommendation:

3. The responsibility for civility in public meetings should also include the public as well as elected and appointed officials.

Rationale:

The current resolution encourages both elected and appointed officials to practice civility and decorum during public meetings. The resolution should also include that civility by the public is also important in achieving open, transparent, and effective government.

During the past year RPU Board members and staff have been personally insulted, demeaned, bullied, and slandered by members of the public during public meetings. Further, two members of the public even went to a RPU board member's place of employment in what might be interpreted as an act of intimidation. These actions have a chilling effect on the open exchange of ideas, deliberations, and discussions in the decision-making process. The incivility of some members of the public, aimed at personal destruction, needs to be addressed as it detracts from the free exchange of ideas and the democratic process.

Sincerely,

**Susan Cash, Chair
Board of Public Utilities**