



Budget Engagement Commission

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: JANUARY 24, 2018**
FROM: FINANCE DEPARTMENT **WARD: ALL**
SUBJECT: REPORT TO THE MAYOR'S NOMINATING AND SCREENING COMMITTEE

ISSUE:

Discuss and formulate a report to the Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Budget Engagement Commission (BEC) discuss and formulate a report to the Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee (MNSC) regarding how the process of the Budget Engagement Commission is working.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

On October 25, 2016, the MNSC recommended unanimously that the City Council adopt the proposed ordinance and that; 1) the BEC have a meaningful role in providing input to the City Council on the City's budget and related matters, including community engagement; and 2) have staff return to the MNSC in January 2018 with a report on how the BEC process is working, and whether changes are needed.

On November 8, 2016, the City Council approved the recommendations of the MNSC and the introduction of an ordinance forming the BEC (Chapter 2.90). The first reading of the ordinance was held on December 6, 2016; the final ordinance was adopted on January 10, 2017.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of BEC is to advise the City Council on spending and policy priorities based on the information received through quarterly financial and performance reports, including revenues from Measure Z. BEC also works with staff to maximize public engagement on municipal budgetary issues.

BEC is composed of 18 members, consisting of:

- Nine resident members, with 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
- Nine business members, with seven nominated by each of the Council members who own a business in their ward or live in their ward or own a business in any ward, and two Citywide nominations made by the Mayor.
- BEC members were appointed on February 14, 2017.

The BEC Bylaws were adopted by the BEC on February 23, 2017. (Attachment 1)

DISCUSSION:

The Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee requests an update regarding how the process of the Budget Engagement Commission is working to be presented on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

At the November 30, 2017 BEC meeting, BEC Commissioners expressed interest in holding further discussions relating to:

- Meaningful input on major fiscal matters and/or strategic initiatives;
- Frequency of City Council meetings, and the ability of the BEC to provide timely input on items considered by both bodies; and
- Meeting location alternatives to improve community accessibility and attendance at BEC meetings.

Selection Process for BEC Commissioners

BEC Commissioners also inquired about the application and selection process for BEC Commissioners. Appointment to City Commissions is governed by Riverside City Charter Article VIII – Appointive Boards and Commissions; membership of the Budget Engagement Commission, including appointment and term, is further defined in Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 2.90 – Budget Engagement Commission. Pursuant to this legislation, the members of the Budget Engagement Commission are nominated and appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The application process for appointment to the BEC includes a general application for boards and commissions (Attachment 2) and a supplemental application for the Budget Engagement Commission (Attachment 3). The supplemental application includes questions that assess the candidate's education and experience; this ensures that the members of the Commission have a background commensurate with the purpose of the Budget Engagement Commission.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by:	Kristie Thomas, Interim Budget and Revenue Manager
Approved as to	
Availability of funds:	Adam Raymond, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
Approved by:	Marianna Marysheva, Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

1. Bylaws of the Budget Engagement Commission
2. Boards and Commissions – General Application
3. Budget Engagement Commission Supplemental Application