



RECONSIDERATION TO AMEND CHAPTER 2.90 SECTION 2.90.030
OF THE RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE TO REDUCE THE MEMBERSHIP
OF THE BUDGET ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION

Governmental Processes Committee

AUGUST 6, 2025

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BUDGET ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION

- Composed of **18 members**
- Advise the City Council on **spending and policy priorities** based on the information received through quarterly financial and performance reports
- Works with City staff to **maximize public engagement** on municipal budgetary issues
- Provides input on performance measures and reporting programs



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CHAPTER 2.90 SECTION 2.90.030

Chapter 2.90 Section 2.90.030 states, in summary:

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.



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QUORUM ISSUES

- Continued challenges filling vacant positions
- 11 Meetings cancelled since 2023 due to Lack of Quorum
- Missed opportunities to provide input on proposed Measure Z initiatives, and quarterly financial reports with supplemental appropriations
- Results in an unnecessary drain on City resources



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ATTENDANCE HISTORY

5 meeting cancelled in 2023

Meeting	Seat Filled	Members Present	Members Absent	Held/ Cancelled	Reason for Cancellation
01/12/23	12 of 18	11	1	Held	
02/09/23	11 of 18			Cancelled	Lack of quorum
03/09/23	11 of 18	7	4	Cancelled	Lack of quorum
04/13/23	14 of 18	7	7	Cancelled	Lack of quorum
05/11/24	14 of 18	5	9	Cancelled	Lack of quorum
06/08/23	12 of 18	11	1	Held	
07/13/23	13 of 18	11	1	Held	
08/10/23	14 of 18	14	0	Held	
09/14/23	15 of 18	13	1	Held	
10/12/23	16 of 18	7	9	Cancelled	Lack of quorum
11/09/23	16 of 18	13	3	Held	
12/14/23	16 of 18	14	2	Held	

4 meeting cancelled in 2024

Meeting	Seat Filled	Members Present	Members Absent	Held/ Cancelled	Reason for Cancellation
01/11/24	16 of 18	12	4	Held	
02/08/24	16 of 18	8	8	Cancelled	Lack of quorum
03/04/24	14 of 18	13	1	Held	
04/11/24	13 of 18	12	1	Held	
05/09/24	14 of 18	14	0	Held	
06/13/24	14 of 18	10	4	Held	
07/11/24	13 of 18	10	3	Held	
08/08/24	12 of 18	12	0	Held	
09/12/24	12 of 18			Cancelled	Lack of items
10/10/24	13 of 18	8	6	Cancelled	Lack of quorum
11/14/24	13 of 18	12	1	Held	
12/12/24	13 of 18	7	6	Cancelled	Lack of quorum

2 meeting cancelled in 2025

Meeting	Seat Filled	Members Present	Members Absent	Held/ Cancelled	Reason for Cancellation
01/09/25	13 of 18			Cancelled	Lack of quorum
02/13/25	13 of 18	11	2	Held	
03/13/25	12 of 18	10	2	Held	
04/10/25	12 of 18			Cancelled	Lack of quorum
05/08/25	12 of 18	11	1	Held	
06/12/25	12 of 18	10	2	Held	
07/10/25	13 of 18	11	2	Held	
08/14/25	of 18				
09/11/25	of 18				
10/09/25	of 18				
11/13/25	of 18				
12/11/25	of 18				



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IMPACT OF CANCELLATIONS

- Resources per meeting:
 - BEC Secretary & Communications Team
 - ~25 labor hours – BEC Secretary & Communications Team
 - \$1,250 labor and materials
 - Other City Staff
 - Data gathering and content creation
 - Content review and approval
 - Meeting attendance
- Duplication of efforts (agenda carryovers)
- Lack of timely input from the BEC
- BEC Member impact – employment, childcare, other arrangements



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OPTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Below are four options recommended by the BEC for Committee discussion/selection to forward as recommendations to the City Council for adoption:

1. Reduce the membership of the Budget Engagement Commission to seven Ward seats and four Citywide seats for a total of eleven members with Resident and Business seat appointments at the discretion of the appointing elected official;
2. Consider a pathway to membership reduction as follows; (a) immediately eliminate vacant seats for Wards 4, 6, and 7, as well as one of the two vacant Ward 2 seats; (b) as terms expire or members resign, eliminate their seat provided that at least one representative remains for the respective ward;
3. If the will of the Council is to reduce the mayoral appoints from four to two, the BEC recommends the Council follow a similar pathway to membership reduction such that the following occurs: (a) immediately eliminate vacant seats for Wards 4, 6, and 7, as well as one of the two vacant Ward 2 seats and one of the Citywide seats; (b) as terms expire or members resign, eliminate their seat provided that at least one representative remains for the respective ward and two representatives remain for the Citywide seats
4. Make no revisions to the ordinance.



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Governmental Processes Committee:

1. Consider options to amend Chapter 2.90 Section 2.90.030 of the Riverside Municipal Code to reduce the membership of the Budget Engagement Commission; and
2. Recommend that City Council adopt an ordinance to amend Chapter 2.90 Section 2.90.030 of the Riverside Municipal Code.



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