

City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: JUNE 16, 2026**
FROM: MAYOR PRO TEM STEVEN ROBILLARD **WARDS: ALL**
**SUBJECT: WAIVE THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE
EMPLOYMENT OF JAMES JOHNSON TO SERVE AS CITY ATTORNEY**

ISSUE:

Waive the Sunshine Ordinance for consideration of the Employment Agreement between the City of Riverside and James Johnson, setting forth the terms and conditions for their employment as the City Attorney.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council consider waiving the Sunshine Ordinance pursuant to Riverside Municipal Code Section 4.05.050(D)(1)(a) determining the need to take immediate action in consideration of the City Attorney Employment Agreement with James Johnson. With full quorum, five affirmative votes required; with less than full quorum, four affirmative votes required.

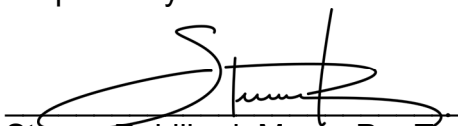
DISCUSSION:

Sunshine waiver justification: The City Attorney, who is also a Charter Officer, is quickly needed as the City is entering the 2026/27 Fiscal Year. The City of Riverside has been operating with an Interim City Attorney since October 2024. Mr. Johnson has a contractual obligation with his current employer to provide notice of separation. This action is necessary to meet that obligation, accelerate his starting date, and represent the City of Riverside in all legal matters. This action cannot wait until the next City Council Meeting scheduled for 6/23/2026.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Prepared by:


Steven Robillard, Mayor Pro Tem