

R-16-81 Meeting 16-14 June 22, 2016

AGENDA ITEM 5

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Formation of the Diversity Outreach Ad Hoc Committee

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION SUPPLY



Direct the formation of a new Diversity Outreach Ad Hoc Committee, and authorize the Board President to appoint three Directors to serve on the Diversity Outreach Ad Hoc Committee.

SUMMARY

At its May 25, 2016 meeting, the Board directed staff to return at a future Board meeting with a report to authorize formation of a Diversity Outreach Ad Hoc Committee to provide guidance in implementing the District's Strategic Plan Goal to "Develop and implement a comprehensive public outreach strategy utilizing the entire District organization, including the engagement of diverse communities and enhanced public education programs". The Diversity Outreach Ad Hoc Committee would be in place for a period of one year.

MEASURE AA

This is not a Measure AA project.

DISCUSSION

The Board's Strategic Plan has long-focused in building and strengthening diverse partnerships, increasing public outreach, and utilizing the entirety of the organization to accomplish these goals. The Board President has suggested formation of a Diversity Outreach Ad Hoc Committee to increase Board member involvement in increasing outreach to and involvement of diverse communities.

Board Policy 1.04 (Board Committees) authorizes the Board to form ad hoc committees to study "specific matters and provide recommendations to the Board on such matters." In order to increase the District's outreach to diverse partners and communities, the General Manager recommends the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to provide guidance and assistance to the Board and staff on effective, creative strategies to encourage civic engagement of communities; promote efforts to build relationships with cultural groups and leaders; and advise and support District efforts to increase and continue public outreach to multicultural and diverse communities. Key items anticipated for discussion and involvement by the Committee include: promote and collaborate with non-profit community organizations and educational programs, engage with communities through public meetings to increase awareness about the District and

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its projects, explore strategies to better reflect the diversity of the surrounding community in District activities and functions, and expand existing partnerships and enter into new, non-traditional partnerships to complete projects and improve programs that serve a diverse community.

FISCAL IMPACT

Formation of a new Diversity Outreach Ad Hoc Committee may result in a modest fiscal impact if the Board selects to make these meetings compensable. Per Board policy on *Compensation of Directors and Payment of Expenses*, the maximum allowable total compensation per Board member shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day and five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per calendar month, irrespective of the number of meetings attended each day or each month (Chapter 6, Policy 6.03). The new Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget does not include a specific allocation for the proposed new Ad Hoc Committee. However, the Budget may be sufficient depending on the total number of compensable meetings that are scheduled next fiscal year.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

This item was not previously reviewed by a Board Committee.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice was provided pursuant to the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

This proposed action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and no environmental review is required.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval by the Board, Committee members would be appointed by the Board President.

Responsible Department Head:

Steve Abbors, General Manager

Prepared by:

Jennifer Woodworth, District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager