



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

LEGISLATIVE, FUNDING AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

R-15-54

March 17, 2015

AGENDA ITEM 6

AGENDA ITEM

Role and Emphasis of the Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. G. G.", written over the printed text of the General Manager's Recommendation.

Confirm the role and emphasis of the Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee, including the committee charge as set out in this report.

SUMMARY

The Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee (LFPAC, Committee) is charged with the following tasks: reviews and makes recommendations to the Board on the proposed two-year legislative program; reviews policy matters related to the Board Policy Manual and other Board policies and regulations as assigned by the Board; reviews matters concerning District funding, public affairs, and outreach; and reviews requests for naming District facilities, lands and preserves. LFPAC members asked for a further discussion and definition of LFPAC from staff.

DISCUSSION

At the February 19, 2015 meeting, LFPAC members discussed the scope of LFPAC with a particular discussion around what constitutes funding. In view of the ongoing role of the Action Plan and Budget Committee to review matters relating to budget and finance, there is no need to duplicate review of these subjects by LFPAC. Committee members discussed whether LFPAC should be renamed "Legislative Committee" with the other functions divided between other standing committees or to retain LFPAC as it is but give more definition to the scope. Another option would be to create a new committee to oversee administrative functions such as policies.

The General Manager recommends keeping the LFPAC charge as it stands with no changes to the name or scope and to further define the types of items that may be forwarded to the Committee. That list is as follows:

- Annual Communications and Outreach Plan – review prior to forwarding and presenting to the full Board and prior to inclusion into the next years' Action Plan
- Legislation Updates; briefings
- Recommendations on supporting/opposing new legislation where deadlines permit
- Briefings on federal/state grant opportunities (e.g. Water Bond Guidelines under development)

- Discussion of potential public affairs issues (e.g. drought conditions and impacts to neighbors, farmers, ranchers, etc)
- Consideration of Resolutions of Support, Resolutions of Commendation
- Review of major event planning (e.g. 45th Anniversary)
- Approve any major logo design changes
- Review of public survey results, trail counts, etc.
- Site Naming requests
- Recognition requests
- Review major interpretive projects/program changes
- Review and update Board policies

In view of this scope, the General Manager concludes that the current LFPAC functions are appropriately assigned to this committee and that there is no current organizational need to form another committee.

Legislative updates and legislative issues will be forwarded to and decided by the Committee as time permits. However, because of the speed and changes within legislation and key issues that develop during the year, legislative updates will also occur at the Board level by District staff as information reports at Board meetings. In addition, when time is critical, the General Manager may support or oppose key legislation without referring to Committee, and will inform the entire Board of his decisions at its regular meeting. In such instances, the General Manager will notify the LFPAC Committee Chair as soon as possible.

Some Board policies that are specific to a certain department, such as Natural Resource Policies, may be assigned to that committee in lieu of LFPAC by the General Manager.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

This item is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.

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