

**THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND OPENNESS
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO**

**ACTIONS FOR
FEBRUARY 14, 2005, 9:00 A.M.**

****COUNCIL CHAMBERS (12TH FLOOR), CITY ADMINISTRATION
BUILDING
202 C STREET, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

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COUNCIL COMMENT:

ACTION: None received.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT: Mel Shapiro:

Spoke regarding improving efficiency of City Council meetings, specifically the amount of time the public must wait to speak on docketed items. Also wanted to know when he should arrive at regular City Council meetings for Non-Agenda Public Comment.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT: Dave Potter:

Requested that a future GE&O Committee meeting discuss Charter Section 42.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT: Scott Andrews:

Voiced support for Councilmember Frye's recommendations on the Non-Agenda Public Comment issue being heard by the City Council. Stated that changing the Non-Agenda Public Comment time is not the right thing to do during our current financial crisis.

ADOPTION AGENDA

ITEM-1: Approval of the Action Items for January 31, 2005.

Public Comment received by: None.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Atkins, second by Councilmember Maienschein to approve the action items for January 31, 2005.

VOTE: 3-0; Frye-yea, Atkins-yea, Maienschein-yea

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ITEM-2: Report from the City Attorney on available legal remedies regarding potential Brown Act violations (NOVEMBER 19, 2004, and JANUARY 21, 2005, SAN DIEGO CITY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SDCERS) BOARD MEETINGS.)

(See City Attorney's February 9, 2005, memo)

Public Comment received by: None.

ACTION: The Government Efficiency and Openness Committee accepted the report.

ITEM-3: Informational report from the City Auditor and the San Diego City Employees' Retirement System (SDCERS) on City procedures for DETERMINING WHEN A CITY RETIREE IS DECEASED AND THE RESULTING ACTION DEALING WITH THE DISBURSEMENT OF PENSION CHECKS.

(See Darlene Morrow-Truver and Lawrence B. Grissom's February 4, 2005, memo; Dian Shipione's February 10, 2005, executive summary)

Public Comment received by: Commander Bert Decker, USN (ret.): Supportive of GE&O and stressed that the City needs to "get a move on" regarding its pending annual audits.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Maienschein, second by Councilmember Atkins to direct the City Auditor to work with the San Diego City Employees' Retirement System (SDCERS) Board to perform a survey and provide a report back to the GE&O Committee in 30 days regarding the generally accepted practices by public and private entities of how often to perform Social Security Administration death match audits and to make the proper adjustments to our system; provide copies of the quarterly death match audit reports performed since 2003, and; provide the total number of all overpayments made by SDCERS since 1996, broken down on a yearly basis, and include an accounting of how much of those overpayments have been recovered by SDCERS.

VOTE: 3-0; Frye-yea, Atkins-yea, Maienschein-yea

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ITEM-4: Public discussion that will include, but not be limited to, AMENDING THE PERMANENT RULES OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE TRANSITION TO A "STRONG MAYOR" FORM OF GOVERNMENT AND THE ROLE OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN THIS TRANSITION.

(See City Attorney Summary of Strong Mayor form of Government; RFQ- Consulting Services for the City of San Diego Strong Mayor Form of Government Transition Process; Strong Mayor Charter Amendment – Strikeout/Underline Version; League of Women Voters' February 14, 2005, letter)

Public Comment received by: Norma Damashek, representing the League of Women Voters:

Organized presentation regarding the need for more public participation in the Strong Mayor Transition Process. Recommended forming a Citizens Strong Mayor Transition Team to advise the City Council throughout this process.

Public Comment received by: Adrian Kwiatkowski, representing the Strong Mayor & Council Research Institute, a division of the Monger Company:

Stated that San Diego is the largest municipality to make the switch from a City Manager form of government to Strong Mayor Form of Government and that this issue is starting to be analyzed at strongmayorcouncil.com

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Maienschein, second by Councilmember Atkins that the issue regarding the process for adopting an independent budget analyst position be brought forward at an upcoming GE&O meeting. The Committee should consider all issues raised in Councilmember Maienschein's January 19, 2005, memo regarding the Office of the Independent Budget Analyst, how the position will be funded in the upcoming budget, and the need for a legislative analyst position(s). Also, that an Ad-Hoc Citizens Advisory Committee be formed to report back to the GE&O Committee on a periodic basis regarding concerns raised by the public during the Strong Mayor Transition process. This Committee will be composed of at least nine members consisting of one representative from each Council District, selected by that district's Councilmember and one representative selected by the Mayor's Office. The City Attorney's Office and City Manager's Office should support the Committee.

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A special GE&O Committee meeting should be held to confirm the membership of the Committee.

VOTE: 3-0; Frye-yea, Atkins-yea, Maienschein-yea

Donna Frye
Chair