



**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER RAUL A. CAMPILLO
SEVENTH DISTRICT**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 11, 2021

TO: Council President Jennifer Campbell, Chair, Committee on Rules

FROM: Councilmember Raul A. Campillo, Vice Chair, Committee on Rules
RAC

SUBJECT: Committee on Rules 2021 Priorities

Thank you for seeking my input on the 2021 priorities for the Committee on Rules. I'm honored to serve as your Vice Chair, and I look forward to working with the committee, the IBA, and the Mayor's office to work towards a more transparent, efficient, and accountable City.

In response to your request for priorities for the Rules Committee, I offer the following suggestions as we develop our work plan:

Potential Ballot Measures

Council Policy 000-21: Submission of Ballot Proposals, establishes procedures for the submittal of ballot proposals, and encourages early submission of such proposals. As the committee designated to review these proposals, the Rules Committee should begin to explore Council-initiated ballot measures for the 2022 election cycle during calendar year 2021, to provide sufficient time for meaningful consideration and evaluation of proposals. This will also allow adequate time for committee members, the Mayor, and interested members of the public to fully engage in the process. Topics the committee should evaluate for potential ballot measures include:

- Housing, Zoning, and Construction Bond
- Elections and Voter Participation
- Campaign Finance and Administration Reform
- Raising TOT Tax to Increase Revenue to the General Fund

Customer Service and Open Government

Get it Done

The Committee should work with the Performance and Analytics Department to receive updates regarding 311 and the Get it Done Service, in order to properly determine how the City can better increase transparency and access between our municipality and the citizens we represent. Some

potential improvements to the Get it Done service I will be asking to learn more about are, but not limited to:

- More detailed information regarding report status once filed
- Addition of multiple languages to accommodate the many diverse backgrounds and native languages spoken across all Council districts

Translation Services

Public participation is an essential component of the City Council's legislative process. The Committee should work with the City Clerk's office to explore expanding current translation services. This includes translation of public documents, forms, live meetings, etc., in multiple languages to appropriately serve the diverse communities of our residents. In order to have a truly transparent and engaged public process, we must address the current barriers many San Diegans face when trying to participate in the business of the City.

Reducing Barriers to Run for Public Office

The Committee should work with the City Clerk's office to review the current *City Clerk's Administrative Guidelines* document which aims to "provide procedures, specifications, and clarification regarding election matters that cut across all election types and procedures"¹. The intent of this analysis should be to examine potential changes to the document, to make the process of running for election in the City of San Diego more streamlined, clear, and easier to understand for all citizens with such interest. The intent of this ask is to remove barriers facing members of the general public who wish to run for office in the City.

Charter Amendments

Calendar Year

The Committee should explore the feasibility for the City of San Diego to shift from a fiscal year of July-June, to a calendar year of January-December. The exploration of such change should include analysis of whether this change will provide congruency between the City and other governmental jurisdictions, in addition to congruency with many regional organizations.

Franchise

The committee should explore a potential Charter Amendment to both streamline and clarify the public contract solicitation process regarding franchise agreements between the City and potential partners.

Boards and Commissions

The Committee should continue the efforts of the previous Rule's Committee to streamline and clarify the process of nominating and appointing a citizen to boards and commissions. I urge the Committee to work with the Office of Boards and Commissions to broaden the City's outreach to potential candidates, to diversify appointments and members who serve on boards.

¹ https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/city_clerk_administrative_guidelines.pdf

Inclusion in Government

Language

The U.S. House of Representative recently approved a package that changes the body's code of conduct, moving away from the use of binary language to the use of non-binary language in its proceedings and official language. For example, the terms "Chairman" and "Chairwoman", will now officially be referred to as "Chair"². This package was a deliberate effort to bring more inclusivity to our nation's Congress, and the City of San Diego should follow suit. I urge the Committee to explore amending Council Policy to include more inclusive, non-binary language and terms throughout Council proceedings and official Council language.

Employee process

The Committee should work with the Human Resources Department to analyze the capacity of current standards to create an inclusive hiring process for prospective employees, and an inclusive experience for employees during their tenure with the City. This request's intent is to address inequities for all City of San Diego employees, such as our employees who identify as LGBTQ+. This analysis should provide data that identifies potential areas where the City could improve its efforts to make the City a more inclusive place to work.

² <https://www.miamiherald.com/news/politics-government/article248264460.html>