



Council Agenda Report

From: Tom Frutchey, City Manager

Subject: Council Goal-Setting Workshop Focus, Format, and Schedule

Date: December 19, 2017

Facts

1. The City's two-year budget development process will start early in the new year.
2. City Councils frequently hold a goal-setting session at the beginning of the budget process. These can take many different forms.
3. The Council's last goal-setting session was in April, 2015. This session focused on primarily operational-level goals (see Attachment 1 for results).
4. There are a number of strategic-level issues currently facing the City, with long-term impact, including, among others: housing shortages; head-of-household job shortages; economic development in the face of Diablo Canyon's closure; maximizing the future of the airport; increasing the quantity and quality of community engagement; etc.
5. Many of these go right to the heart of the Council's vision and the community's vision for the future of Paso Robles and the north County. This meta-level vision has not been re-examined in a systematic way in many years.
6. The recent community survey (reported elsewhere in this agenda) generated results that indicate there are significant opportunities for positive impact and influence of our future.
7. The Council could take this opportunity to step back and re-assess the current vision, and the community's willingness to accomplish that vision. It is crucial to see if there is consensus around that vision or a variant, and to ensure the General Plan (most elements of which were adopted in 2003) is continuing to guide us appropriately, etc.
8. Such a session might best be run by an outside facilitator, especially one who is familiar with this type of exercise, and has successfully conducted similar sessions.
9. This session would follow the already scheduled January 11 Next Steps Workshop based on the community survey results.
10. Then, the Council's session on the fiscal forecast would be the third and final session setting the stage for the initiation of the budget development process.

Options

1. Take no action;
2. Provide direction to staff on the focus, format, and schedule for a Council Goal-Setting workshop;
3. Provide alternative direction to staff;

Analysis and Conclusions

The best approach to such a session will depend on what the Council seeks to accomplish.

The suggested format is as follows:

- A. Staff presentations on governing General Plan concepts/policies, as well as current and expected future issues and opportunities that may influence variation to current goals and policies
- B. Council questions
- C. Public comment
- D. Council discussion and direction to staff.

The direction received at the Goal-Setting Workshop will guide the budget development process.

Fiscal Impact

None. If the Council chooses to utilize an outside facilitator, then there would be associated costs.

Recommendation

Provide direction to staff on the Council's interest in having a goal-setting session to precede the budget process and, if so, the focus, format, and schedule of such a session.

Attachments

1. Results of last goal-setting session, in April 2015