

AGENDA



Thursday, November 8, 2007

**Public Hearings and Possible Actions
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 119**

Subject: Conduct a public hearing to receive comments regarding proposed changes to the City's board and commission system.

For More Information: Bert Lumbreras

Boards and Commission Action: The provisions of the proposed ordinance related to financial reporting requirements and conflict of interest disclosure were recommended by the Ethics Review Commission.

In April 2007, the City Council passed a resolution describing the board and commission system as vital to the form of government in Austin. Because of the size and importance of this system, Council declared it imperative that resources be expended in the most effective and prudent ways possible. The City Manager was directed to review the system and make recommendations for improvements based on a Board and Commission Task Force report completed in 2003. This Task Force was appointed in 2001 and directed to survey board members to assess issues and areas of concern.

Staff conducted a briefing to Council on staff's recommendations on October 11, 2007. At that meeting, staff highlighted their next steps in this process. Staff went to the Ethics Review Commission on October 22, 2007 and made a presentation regarding two specific recommendations: financial reporting requirements and conflict of interest forms. A full public hearing is scheduled for the November 8, 2007 Council meeting to receive public comment regarding the proposed changes before an ordinance is presented to Council for action and approval.