

**RESOLUTION NO.**

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 20150129-026 amended the City Code by adding a new article to Chapter 2-5 of relating to Council committees, providing duties and procedures for the committees, making conforming amendments to other parts of the Code, and amending parts of article 2 of Chapter 2-5 relating to the Council's agenda and meeting procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, Council created new protocol for Council committees to make City government more efficient and transparent; and

**WHEREAS**, Council has established the intent to review the current committee structure; and

**WHEREAS**, Council seeks to reduce time and workload burdens for City staff in carrying out and facilitating Council the committee process; and

**WHEREAS**, Council seeks to improve accessibility and transparency of the committee process for the public; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

The purposes of Council committees are:

1. to delegate a limited number of complex policy discussions to small groups who can more easily explore complicated policy issues or issues in dispute to generate useful policy solutions; and
2. to proactively craft policy on major city-wide issues; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Council committees should not be used for postponements; instead requests for postponements should be established at Council work session for future Council Meeting agendas;
2. Council committees will not be the primary vehicle for taking public comment; however, committees can take public comment early in the policy-making process if the committee finds early public input is helpful; and
3. Council does not assume that items from the City Manager should go to Council committee before being placed on a Council agenda; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Council assumes that Items from Council that are placed on the Council agenda with four co-sponsors do not require committee review.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2016

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk

Approve an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 20150129-026

**The amended ordinance will state:**

- A. Items must be sponsored by a majority of committee members to be placed on the committee's agenda.
- B. Committee votes are only advisory to the full council and will not be automatically placed on the Council agenda. Items reviewed by committee will be required to follow the same posting as Items from Council.
- C. Each committee of the Council will consist of 3 Council Members, instead of 4, with the exception of the AE Oversight Committee.
- D. Recommendations from committee need to follow the same posting timeline as items from Council.
- E. Public comment on items heard by committees should be extended beyond the current cap at Council. Public comment will be set at 1 hour maximum at committee and two hours maximum at Council.
- F. Committees cannot direct staff beyond the Council right of inquiry.