

From: Sue Taylor
To: BOS-District I; BOS-District V; BOS-District II; BOS-District IV; BOS-District III; BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: 8-12-25 Agenda Item 37, Legistar 25-1300 PC bylaws
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 8:40:46 AM

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Dear Board Members,

Per County Code, (Section 2.20.650) the Planning Commission is to adopt their own by-laws, then those by-laws shall be approved by the Board of Supervisors. If the Board wants to see a modification of the by-laws, they need to discuss that in public during their Board meeting, then send that mutually agreed upon decision back to the Planning Commission for discussion so that it can be vetted between the Commission, Staff and the Public.

Per California Government code, Gov 65101 the "The legislative body shall specify the membership of the commission or commissions. In any event, each planning commission shall consist of at least five members, **"all of whom shall act in the public interest."** The Planning Commission should be not limited to their ability to serve the public. The unvetted recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee looks to restrict the actions of the Commission.

I would ask that you approve the By-Laws as recommended by the Planning Commission and vetted by County Staff.

Thank you,
Sue Taylor

P. S. Something I found interesting doing this research for this item. The past Board of Supervisors [the three that violated the law are no longer on the Board] violated their own law when they denied me to serve as a Planning Commissioner under Supervisor George Turnboo. According to the County Code, "The County Planning Commission shall consist of five members, **one to be selected by each member of the Board of Supervisors.**" There is nothing in the code about the planning commissioner being approved by the full Board. Apparently your Council Counsel misled the Board when he allowed for a hearing regarding my appointment.

From: Cheryl Bly-Chester
To: George Turnboo; BOS-District II; BOS-Clerk of the Board; BOS-District V; BOS-District IV; Bob Williams; BOS-District I
Subject: August 12, 2025 Agenda Item 37 to adopt new PC bylaws is a Violation of County Code
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 11:55:05 PM

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Dear Chair Turnboo:

With respect, the August 12, 2025 BOS Agenda item 37. 25-1300 to vote on adopting new bylaws for the County Planning Commission violates the County Code.

COUNTY CODE ARTICLE IX

Sec. 2.20.650. Bylaws and records. The County Planning Commission shall adopt bylaws providing for the method of electing officers, time and place of regular meetings of the Commission, which shall be held at least once each month, and such other rules as may be necessary for the transaction of the business of the Commission and shall keep a public record of its resolutions, transactions, findings and determinations. The bylaws of the Commission or any change thereof shall not be effective until approved by the Board of Supervisors and shall, in any case, provide that the Commission shall only take action by a majority vote of the entire Commission. (Prior Code, § 9108; Code 1997, § 2.27.080)

Therefore, The Planning Commission and NOT the Board of Supervisors SHALL do the adopting. Only after the Planning Commission has adopted new Bylaws can this hearing to approve take place.

It is a good thing that the Ad Hoc Committee is taking a look at the Bylaws, I've thought they were screwed up since I was on the Planning Commission. I was prevented from proposing changes by interference from the Deputy County Counsel. I like many of the suggestions made by the Ad Hoc committee and recognize that they reflect due consideration. I do not agree with every change and I would like to suggest some of my own. Really, that should all happen at the Planning Commission hearing, not here.

Having said that, the County needs to follow its own laws and do this this according to the process laid out in the County Code. Now the Ad Hoc Committee should be presenting their findings and suggested changes to the Planning Commission in a public hearing that allows for the Planning Commissioners to act independently, as is their sworn duty (adopted by the BOS in 2020 in the Final Planning Commission Members Reference Guide). The Planning Commission has to first adopt any and all changes by majority vote in a Planning Commission public hearing. When the Planning Commission adopts the new Bylaws - then and only then - can the BOS either approve it or deny it or suggest changes and remand it back to the Planning Commission for another hearing.

Please follow the County Code.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Cheryl Bly-Chester, living in District 2