



TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: Doris Sorum, City Clerk, City Attorney’s Office
 Elizabeth Pauli, City Attorney’s Office
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Ordinance – Amending Tacoma Municipal Code 1.06.075 – October 6, 2015
DATE: September 28, 2015

SUMMARY:

An Ordinance amending Section 1.06.075 of the Municipal Code relating to the Citizen Police Advisory Committee, to add staggered terms and a term limit of ten years.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Council Members Woodards, Campbell and Lonergan.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

Amending Section 1.06.075 of the Tacoma Municipal Code best aligns with the strategic policy priorities below:

- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs; and,
- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

BACKGROUND:

On June 28, 2005, the City Council, through Resolution No. 36536, adopted the recommendations of the Human Rights Commission regarding citizen oversight of the Tacoma Police Department and directed the City Manager to implement those recommendations. On February 20, 2007, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 27589, which formally implemented the recommendation by the Human Rights Commission and Police Accountability Workgroup by creating a Citizen Review Panel. This ordinance created and clarified the role of the Citizen Review Panel by amending Municipal Code Chapter 1.06 and to add a new Section 1.06.075.

At the June 26, 2014 Public Safety, Human Services and Education (PSHSE) Committee meeting, the Citizen Review Panel provided an update of its 2013 accomplishments and 2014 work plan. Also at this meeting, Panel Chair Keith James requested that the City Council consider changing the Tacoma Municipal Code and the name of the Citizen Review Panel to something that describes the Panel's work and relationship with the Tacoma Police Department more accurately. The PSHSE Committee approved a motion to forward this request to the full City Council for consideration; however, PSHSE Chair Woodards requested that staff review opportunities related to the Equity and Empowerment Initiative for the purpose of modifying the Panel's duties and include those recommendations in the same legislation as a name change for the Panel.

After a discussion on the additional code amendments at the June 8, 2015 Citizen Review Panel meeting, the Panel approved the changes and recommended that the amended language be forwarded to the PSHSE Committee for approval to forward to the full City Council for their consideration and action. The PSHSE Committee discussed the proposed code amendments at their June 25 and July 9 meetings and requested that staff share the latest revised version with the Citizen Review Panel at their July 13 meeting. At that meeting, the Citizen Review Panel requested that of the eleven members, there be one designated youth member to serve a one-year term.



On August 4, 2015, the City Council, through Ordinance No. 28310, amended Section 1.06.075 of the Municipal Code, to change the name of the Citizen Review Panel to the Citizen Police Advisory Committee; revise the duties of the Committee; and increase the number of members from seven to eleven, consisting of one member from each City Council District, five members from the general community, and one designated youth seat, with a minimum of 40 percent of the members from traditionally underrepresented communities or groups.

On September 24, 2015, PSHSE Committee members recommended that amendments be made to Section 1.06.075 of the Tacoma Municipal Code to allow for staggered terms of one, two, or three years, and to create a term limit of ten years for the Citizen Police Advisory Committee.

ISSUE:

Exhibit "A" of Ordinance No. 28310 removed staggered terms, and limited membership to two consecutive three-year terms.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council could choose to approve, partially approve or reject the amendments to Section 1.06.075 as recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is recommending that the City Council approve the amendments to Section 1.06.075 to allow for staggered terms of one, two or three years and to create a term limit of ten years for the Citizen Police Advisory Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.