

From: [Craig Gleason](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Policy Committee: Public comment for item #3, Revisions to Standardize Town's Boards, Committees, and Commission's Enabling Resolutions
Date: Monday, September 22, 2025 11:35:51 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Mayor Hudes and Council member Badame,

I have a few comments and observations regarding the following item on the 9/23 Policy Committee agenda:

Review and Provide Direction on the Revisions to Standardize the Town's Boards, Committees, and Commission's Enabling Resolutions

My experience is only on the Parks and Sustainability Commission so my feedback is somewhat specific to that background.

1. Youth commissioner participation has been very spotty – we had pretty good engagement two years ago but the last two representatives have been mostly absent. We may want to consider different ways to get youth feedback to the Commissions, for example scheduled items where youth are invited to provide ideas and feedback, without the need to act as a standing member.
2. It would be easier to form a quorum with five voting members (3/5) than the current situation (4/6). There's some benefit to that since overall absence rates are relatively high. However, we haven't had to cancel any meetings in my memory due to lack of quorum so I'm not sure if this is a critical issue.
3. If we are willing to have non-voting members for youth, perhaps we could consider that for others too. On the Parks and Sustainability Commission, there have been very few critical votes. Most votes are on housekeeping items like minutes and the more substantive discussions have been advisory to the staff rather than actual decisions. So if we could drop voting privilege but not drop the commission member entirely, it would probably still work pretty well for this particular Commission. The idea would be that the member would be named and able to participate in discussions, but not vote. I believe this is legal, as the Santa Clara County Special Districts Association where I'm a designated representative has non-voting members. I'd guess we wouldn't have too much trouble finding one member who would be willing to drop their voting privilege.
4. Related to item 3, my main contributions to the Commission have never been related to voted items. I've worked on the trail connectivity report, Flume Trail volunteer project, Pickleball working group, etc. Other than currently being the Commission chair, I could easily imagine being a non-voting member and still being able to help in significant ways.

I hope this feedback may help in some way. Thanks very much for your service to our Town.

Craig

ATTACHMENT 3

From: [Bernadette Marie White](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Comment on the Reduction of Commissions for the Sept. 23 Los Gatos Policy Committee Meeting
Date: Monday, September 22, 2025 2:00:06 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello,

I am not able to attend tomorrow's Policy Committee meeting, and I wanted to provide my comments for the meeting:

I proudly serve on the Library Board, and I cannot imagine myself or any of my fellow Board members not being in the room. Reducing the number of committee members will limit the opportunities for citizens to be engaged in local government. It will also limit the voices in the room- providing different perspectives, ideas, and feedback for key city departments.

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From: [Jeffrey P. Blum, Mediator and Private Judge](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Rob Moore](#)
Subject: Fw: Feedback on Proposed Commission Membership Changes
Date: Monday, September 22, 2025 2:22:56 PM
Attachments: [0176_250922141544_001.pdf](#)

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Clerk:

Please see the forwarded letter for consideration by the town's policy committee and council.

If possible, please confirm receipt of the forwarded letter.

Thank you.

Jeffrey P. Blum, Attorney at Law
Family Law Mediation and Private Judging

[REDACTED]
Los Gatos, California 95032

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Website: jeffreypblum.com

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----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Jeff AOL [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 at 02:18:37 PM PDT
Subject: Attached Image

September 22, 2025

Subject: Feedback on Proposed Commission Membership Changes

Dear Clerk,

As a current member of the Community Health and Senior Services Commission ("CHSSC"), whose term concludes at the end of this year, I write this letter on my own behalf and not in my official capacity as a member of CHSSC.

I oppose the staff recommendation to reduce commission membership to five voting members. This proposal provides no substantive rationale for why five members would be sufficient to handle the commission's complex work, how workload or quorum issues were considered, or why alternative structures were not evaluated. The recommendation appears arbitrary and could undermine the effectiveness of the commission without any demonstrated benefit.

The Community Health and Senior Services Commission undertakes a substantial and critical workload that relies on a full complement of commissioners. Our accomplishments include, but are not limited to:

- Developing and maintaining programs that promote senior wellness, social connection, and community education. Consider the Navigator, the HUB, and the Senior Housing information resources as a few examples of our work.
- Overseeing grants and funding initiatives to support local health and senior services programs.
- Reviewing and providing recommendations on policies affecting vulnerable populations.
- Coordinating multi-stakeholder efforts with Town departments, nonprofits, and volunteer organizations.
- Implementing the Senior Service Road Map.
- Addressing critical mental health issues.

- Ensuring accountability of service providers to guarantee effective program delivery.

These efforts require careful planning, investigation, collaboration, and oversight. A commission with fewer than six members would struggle to manage this workload, and, if anything, additional members would enhance the commission's ability to serve the community. Importantly, the commission has rarely experienced deadlocks in votes, demonstrating that a larger membership promotes collaboration rather than gridlock.

Reducing membership would have the following consequences:

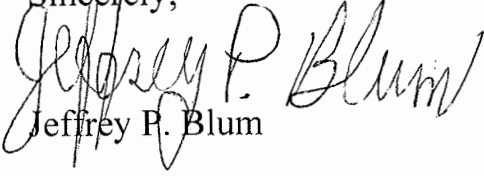
1. **Reduced Capacity to Complete Work:** Fewer commissioners would limit the ability to manage projects, attend meetings, and participate in subcommittees, delaying important decisions and reducing effectiveness.
2. **Loss of Diversity and Perspective:** Each commissioner contributes unique expertise and experience. Fewer members would narrow the range of ideas and solutions considered.
3. **Reduced Community Representation:** Fewer voices reduce the commission's connection to the diverse needs of Los Gatos residents.
4. **Increased Risk of Burnout:** Remaining members would carry greater workloads, raising the risk of fatigue and turnover.
5. **Weakened Oversight and Accountability:** Smaller commissions provide less scrutiny, increasing the potential for errors and groupthink.
6. **Loss of Institutional Knowledge:** Long-serving commissioners provide continuity and historical context critical to informed decision-making.
7. **Decreased Public Confidence:** A reduced or overburdened commission may appear less credible to the community.
8. **Procedural Challenges:** Fewer members make maintaining a quorum difficult and may impede compliance with procedural requirements for votes, hearings, and outreach.

For these reasons, I urge the Policy Committee and Town Council to maintain or even expand commission membership to ensure adequate capacity, diverse perspectives, community representation, and continuity in serving Los Gatos residents.

Thank you for considering my input.

Town of Los Gatos Clerk

Sincerely,


Jeffrey R. Blum

cc: Vice-Mayor Rob Moore

From: [anne](#) [REDACTED]
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: DEI Commissioner/ACC Commissioner Issue
Date: Monday, September 22, 2025 4:23:51 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

To the Policy Committee:

When I came to the DEI Commission in January 2025, DEI Chair Yamate told me that I was a full DEI Commissioner. I understood that I would vote and I voted.

The DEI Commission had invited an Arts & Culture Commissioner to join the DEI Commission and be liaison to the DEI Commission from the ACC Commission. I volunteered for that position.

The DEI Commission wanted skills of an ACC Commissioner to be on their commission. I did that and made a banner for the Town Event at the Fourth of July celebration at their request with their words and colors.

Furthermore, the ideas put forth by the DEI Commission apply well to the ACC Commission, in my opinion.

I cannot imagine not being a voting member on the DEI Commission. I am addressed as "Commissioner Lamborn". My name placard says "Commissioner Lamborn." I am listed in the Town registry as a DEI Commissioner.

By the way, I have served on Town of Los Gatos Commissions for 14 years total. (1986-96, 2022-present, 2025-present). I am not new to commissions in the Town of Los Gatos.

Regarding the Brown Act, I have talked to no commissioners regarding this issue. I did read the letter from Rob Moore and looked up the references in that letter that he sent today.

Regarding making the Town commissions have uniform numbers of commissioners, terms, and quorums, it would seem to be a good idea. I am not really sure that it is. I value strong citizen representation.

I hope to attend the meeting on Sept. 23 at 5 pm to learn more about the issues at stake. Some of the issues may have to do with quorums and being able to do Town business efficiently. I intend to be open-minded.

Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

Anne Lamborn

From: [Carmen Lo](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Public Comment Item #3 - Sept. 23 Council Policy Meeting
Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 2:01:43 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello,

I am writing regarding the Council Policy Committee September 23 meeting Item #3: "Review and Provide Direction on the Revisions to Standardize the Town's Boards, Committees, and Commission's Enabling Resolutions." Though I serve on the Los Gatos Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission, I am writing to you in my personal capacity as a resident of Los Gatos and not in my capacity as a Commissioner.

I am concerned about the proposal to limit the voting members of the DEI Commission to only five voting members, down from the original allocation of eleven voting members outlined in the enabling resolution for the Commission.

First, limiting the DEI Commission to five voting members is antithetical to the very purpose of the Commission. The Enabling Resolution establishes that Los Gatos created the Commission to "work to create more equitable opportunities and increase a sense of belonging for all Los Gatos community members and visitors through community engagement and collaborative activities." To accomplish that, the Resolution provides that membership of the organization has a diversity of members serving in the Commission. By limiting the Commission to five voting members greatly limits the ability for the Commission to represent the interests of the diversity of communities that we have in Los Gatos. To truly listen to all voices of the community, we need both diversity within the Commission members, and enough Commissioners to reach out and engage with all communities in the town.

Second, by cutting the number of DEI Commissioners to less than half of the original voting members sends a signal that the Town is no longer committed to the Town's stated values of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. In a time when these values are under attack and when Los Gatos residents have expressed their fear of being safe in their own community, Los Gatos has a duty to the town to be more committed than ever to these values. Los Gatos has an obligation to their residents, particularly the ones who are most marginalized and vulnerable, to listen and ensure a feeling of inclusion and safety. Los Gatos made a commitment to institutionalize DEI values into the Town's ethos, and it needs to follow through.

Third, eliminating positions on the DEI Commission will greatly hamper the important work that is already happening. The Commission has already made its presence known at various Town events, reached out to countless community groups, and advised the Town on important matters related to fostering a sense of inclusion and belonging in the Town. The Commission will no longer be able to do this critical work if its members are cut in half.

I urge the Policy Committee to vote down the proposed policy change of reducing voting members of the DEI Commission. The work of the DEI Commission is more critical than ever, and Los Gatos needs to continue standing by its residents whom it promised to engage with and protect.

Sincerely,
Carmen Lo

From: [Jeffrey P. Blum, Mediator and Private Judge](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fw: Feedback on Proposed Commission Membership Changes
Date: Friday, September 26, 2025 2:58:27 PM
Attachments: [0176_250922141544_001.pdf](#)

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Clerk:

I understand that the proposal to change the membership size, etc. of town boards and commissions will be considered by the town council in early October. I will not be able to attend the meeting when this occurs. However, I request that the forwarded letter from me be included in the town council's agenda packet when the issue is discussed by the town council.

Thank you.

Jeffrey P. Blum, Attorney at Law
Family Law Mediation and Private Judging

[REDACTED]

Los Gatos, California 95032

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Website: jeffreypblum.com

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----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Jeffrey P. Blum, Mediator and Private Judge [REDACTED]
To: Clerk <clerk@losgatosca.gov>
Cc: rmoore@losgatosca.gov <rmoore@losgatosca.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 at 02:22:44 PM PDT
Subject: Fw: Feedback on Proposed Commission Membership Changes

Dear Clerk:

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Thank you.

Jeffrey P. Blum, Attorney at Law
Family Law Mediation and Private Judging

[REDACTED]
Los Gatos, California 95032

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Website: jeffreypblum.com

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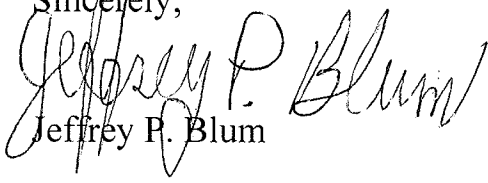
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Town of Los Gatos Clerk

Sincerely,


Jeffrey P. Blum

cc: Vice-Mayor Rob Moore