



TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COUNCIL POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

MEETING DATE: 09/27/2022

ITEM NO: 3

DATE: September 22, 2022
TO: Council Policy Committee
FOR: Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Discuss and Provide Direction for Potential Modifications to the Town Council Code of Conduct, Town Council Policy 2-04

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss and provide direction for potential modifications to the Town Council Code of Conduct, Town Council Policy 2-04.

BACKGROUND:

At the Town Council Retreat meeting on September 17, 2022, the Council discussed among other things the roles and responsibilities of the Mayor and individual Councilmembers as it relates to external communications. At the conclusion of the retreat the Council requested that the Council Policy Committee examine potential modifications to the Town Council Code of Conduct.

DISCUSSION:

During discussions of roles and responsibilities for external communications, there was general agreement around two primary themes for potential policy modification.

The first was that, prior to the Council adopting a policy stance based on the outcome of a Council vote, individual Councilmembers should have the latitude to express their general opinions on issues during the policy development phase of the deliberative process.

The second was that once a majority vote has occurred resulting in the adoption of a policy directive, the Mayor would be the primary contact for communicating those policies. In addition, the Council discussed clarifying language around the ability for Councilmembers to

PREPARED BY: Arn Andrews
Assistant Town Manager

Reviewed by: Town Attorney and Town Clerk

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SUBJECT: Potential Modifications to the Town Council Code of Conduct

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DISCUSSION (continued):

explain individual votes whether in the affirmative or in dissent.

Attachment 1 contains draft (redlined) language for the Committees consideration.

CONCLUSION:

Staff looks forward to the Committee's discussion and direction. Based on the direction, staff will provide any potential Committee recommendations to the full Town Council.

COORDINATION:

The preparation of this report was coordinated with the Town Clerk and the Town Attorney.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Committee's discussion and direction will not result in negative fiscal impacts.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The Committee's discussion and direction are not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

Attachments:

1. Draft Redline Town Council Code of Conduct