

# Prioritizing City Council Agendas and Staff Support

# The Issue

Developing support for a new idea is complicated under the overreaching OGEC rules. We used to:

- Talk with one or more councilors
- Bounce an idea and get feedback
- Refine and polish a concept based on feedback and criticism

Resulting in a more comprehensive, acceptable proposal brought before the council.

With the new OGEC rules, these conversations may not be allowable.

- How do we as individual councilors, develop support for an idea with other councilors to justify staff involvement, with appropriate prioritization?

# Proposal

## First Stage – The Ask

- Create a standing agenda item – a call for “possible future” agenda items
  - Responses are limited to a 60 second description – essentially a problem or opportunity statement.

## Second Stage – The Pitch

- Within 1-3 council meetings, schedule a 3-5 minute sales pitch where the requesting councilor pitches the idea

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- Following the pitch would be up to two considerations or motions by council:
  - Does the idea have sufficient merit to justify staff support for further development of the concept (without regard to priority)?
  - What is the relative priority of the idea when compared with the backlog (or bin)?

# Making This Happen

## Modify Council Rules

- Update the section(s) for creating the agenda for council meetings
- Update other sections to reflect OGEC guidance.

## Manage the backlog (the bin)

- Publish and maintain a current backlog
- Periodic council review of the backlog and prioritization
  - Staff to support with rough order of magnitude effort
  - Reconcile backlog with council goals

Thank  
you

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