



# MINUTES

## MEETING OF THE CHARTER COMMITTEE

**Monday, February 12, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**

**El Cerrito City Hall**

City Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito, CA 94530

**This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible**

### **Roll Call**

Present: Members Fadelli, Gagne, Keller, Lyman, Moore, and Chair Patterson.

Absent: Member Eizenberg (excused).

### **Convene Special Charter Committee meeting.**

Chairperson Patterson convened the Charter Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m.

City Manager Scott Hanin and City Attorney Sky Woodruff also present.

### **1. Review of Existing City Charters**

Staff will facilitate a discussion on the elements of other City Charters and how they relate to the City Council direction in El Cerrito.

Councilmember Lyman requested clarification regarding key California Constitution provisions and Councilmember Fadelli requested information and clarification regarding timelines and reiterated that most things discussed could be reconsidered at a later date with a Charter Amendment if it were the will of the people. Committee members Keller, Moore and Chair Patterson offered suggestions for moving forward with charter review and development. All members participated in discussions on components that would be included and consistent with City Council direction.

Sky Woodruff, City Attorney, discussed the scope of the charter power and highlighted the different approaches contained in charters from the following cities: Auburn, Carlsbad, Emeryville, Lafayette, Palm Desert and San Ramon.

*Item Nos. 1 and 2 were combined and discussed together.*

### **2. Discussion of Potential City Charter Components**

Discussion and possible direction on specific elements to be considered in the El Cerrito draft charter.

Special Charter Committee Meeting Summary

**Action:** The Charter Committee reviewed and discussed various provisions of charter language from the cities identified above. The Committee, by mutual consensus, decided on the following points for inclusion into a draft charter:

1. The draft charter should include a preamble that staff will draft after charter language is developed;
2. Municipal affairs/Powers of the City/Home Rule – broad powers particularly as it relates to municipal ability to levy taxes and assessments and a real property transfer tax specifically;
3. There will be language that does not change public contracting or the prevailing wage.
4. Boilerplate language such as amendments and severability will be included.

**3. Oral Communications from the Public**

Howdy Goudey, El Cerrito, thanked staff for publicizing the meeting and encouraged committee members to be transparent and communicate with the broader public. Mr. Goudey commented on the structure of the charter and suggested distinguishing between issues that the committee wants to stay the same that would require a vote of the public to change versus those things that would not. He also said it is important to identify and communicate what the money will be used for in public outreach if the real property transfer tax measure is enacted.

**4. Items for next meeting**

City Attorney Woodruff will present a draft charter for review and discussion at the Committee's February 26, 2018 meeting.

**5. Adjourned** at 9:06 p.m.