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Minute Actions: 7/19/94, 3/4/97, 11/01/11, 2/21/12 & 10/16/12;  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

The City of Lompoc (City) has established a number of standing City commissions and special citizen advisory committees and boards to review City program areas and special community problems in order to provide a greater public input into the city government of Lompoc. This Handbook has been prepared to provide a general idea of the policies, guidelines and responsibilities of committee, commission and board members.

It is hoped this handbook will provide members with the necessary information to understand the basic functions of their commission, committee or board, as well as their role within the organization.

## LOMPOC VALLEY HISTORY

### ORIGIN OF NAME

The name Lompoc comes from the Chumash; various translations suggest the lakes and lagoons resulting from the spring flooding: "lagoon, little lake."

### INDIAN PERIOD

The Chumash Indians lived in small villages, surviving off the sea and the land. They were non-agricultural. Two of their greatest achievements were the design and construction of the plank canoe and the fine workmanship of their baskets.

### EXPLORATION

1542 - Expedition by Juan Cabrillo (first white contact with the Indians)

1769 - Don Gaspar De Portala camped with his expedition at the mouth of the Santa Ynez River and found an inviting area about which he wrote in his diary.

### MISSION PERIOD

In 1769, King Carlos III of Spain acquired land from San Diego to Monterey for the purpose of building 21 missions and to protect the land from the invading Russians.

In 1787, Mission de la Purisima Concepcion de Maria Santisima was founded. It was built at the end of South "G" Street--just below the hills. Twenty-five years later the Mission was destroyed by an earthquake. Some wall structural remains are still at the site, and a huge, deep crevice can be seen in the hill above the ruins.

The Indians moved across the Valley to the present site, taking 5 years to build and complete the new mission. Unfortunately, white man's diseases wiped out the Indian population and the mission fell to ruin.

The Union Oil Company later owned the land where the Mission ruins lay. In 1933, Union Oil deeded the Purisima Mission site to the county, and a 507-acre State Park was later created. During the 1930's the Civilian Conservation Corps (now known as the California Conservation Corps), the State Park Commission, the National Park Service, and the Department of the Interior restored the mission to its present condition. It is one of the most authentic restorations of an historical landmark in the nation. The restorations were completed in late 1941.

### RANCHO PERIOD

In 1837, the Mexican Governor of California gave land to his soldiers as payment for excellent service. In Santa Barbara County, land was divided into 40 Ranchos. In the Lompoc area there were 5.

In the early 1850's, Thomas Wallace More and his brothers A.P. More and H.H. More bought Rancho Lompoc from the Carrillos family. The partnership of Mr. W. W. Hollister, Hubbard Hollister, Albert Diblee, and Thomas Diblee purchased the two Ranchos in 1863 for \$60,000.

## RANCHO PERIOD (cont'd)

They also owned most of the Ranchos between Lompoc and Santa Barbara. On this land, they ran thousands of sheep and the floor of the Lompoc Valley was covered with 20,000 sheep grazing on lush grass.

## LOMPOC COLONY PERIOD

Mr. W. W. Broughton, a lawyer and newspaperman from Santa Cruz, California, was looking for a place to start a new town. He was unhappy with the drinking problem in the Santa Cruz area, and wanted to start a new town where he could raise his children in a peaceful atmosphere.

In his travels throughout the state, he saw the Lompoc Valley and realized that, because of its beauty, rich soil and excellent climate, this was the dream land he had been looking for. The land was very fertile and would be perfect for farming and raising sheep and cattle.

His town was to be a Temperance Colony – a town where no liquor could be made, consumed or sold. Mr. Broughton organized 100 farmers, ranchers and businessmen from Santa Cruz, Santa Barbara, and San Francisco. They purchased the land, which consisted of all the territory of the Lompoc and Mission Veija de la Purisima Ranchos. It was a total of 46,500 acres, and was purchased on October 19, 1874, at a cost of one half million dollars. These 100 businessmen made up the Lompoc Valley Land Company.

The land was divided into 5, 10, 20, 40 and 80-acre lots and it was to be put up for auction. One square mile would be for the town itself and the rest would be for farmland. One block was set aside for a school (the original site is where El Camino is located). Lots were set aside for churches and fraternal organizations, and a 10-acre section was to be used for a cemetery. Everything was well planned before the auction was ever held.

Mr. Broughton then advertised his land sale in all the newspapers in the Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Jose and Watsonville areas. Families arrived in wagons, which held all their belongings and they lived in tents or the ruins of the first mission while anxiously awaiting the day of the auction. Lots sold fast and furiously.

Five hundred dollars from the land sales was set aside to start a newspaper, because news needed to be sent to the "Easterners" to come West to this wonderful new town. The first auction was so successful that another one was arranged. This time, with his new newspaper, Mr. Broughton was able to advertise throughout the United States. The second sale would be held Monday, April 26, 1875. (Terms of the sale were 15% down with purchase; 15% on the last Monday in December of the first year; and then 10% annually on the last Monday of December of each year.) The average price per acre was \$60.00. These people, who now called Lompoc their home, were peaceful, non-drinking, farmers and ranchers. They brought their trades with them. They ran blacksmith shops, harness shops, made wagons and buggies, set up a creamery and ran grocery and drug stores.

## LOMPOC COLONY PERIOD (cont'd)

The first two years were great ones. By the end of the first year, 200 families had settled in the valley; school was in session; the stage coach came to town three days a week; there was a post office; a newspaper was being published; the town had a doctor; a five-acre picnic ground had been established in Miguelito Canyon; there were plans for an agricultural college; and plans for a much-needed wharf. The wharf was needed so that butter and cheese and other farm products could be shipped to San Francisco. As it was, wagons were hauling these goods to the Gaviota wharf 22 very-rough miles away. It was the plan of the stock company to set aside a quarter of all proceeds from the land sale for the building of an agricultural college. The wharf was urgently needed and so the money from the college fund was loaned for the building of a wharf – with the idea that the profits from shipping Lompoc goods to San Francisco would repay the loan for the college. Soon after the wharf was completed, disaster struck, and rough seas washed the wharf away. It was rebuilt a couple of times – only to wash away again – along with the dreams of a college. All that was left of the dream is the name of the street where the college was to be built – College Avenue.

Disaster seemed to be the key word following the shattered dreams of a wharf and college. For the next few years, no rain fell, and a damaging drought hit the valley. Animals died by the thousands and many people became discouraged and left. Colonel W.W. Hollister loved the new town and hated seeing these people losing everything they owned just because Mother Nature wasn't cooperating. He and the two Mr. Diblees saved the people and the town from total abandonment by remitting interest charges on the land payments for a few years until the drought had passed.

There were still hard times for four more years – a diphtheria epidemic killed many of the children. However, many of these tough people clung to the rich soil and their new homes, and survived.

The town prospered and in years to come another industry, besides agriculture, developed. This was the mining of diatomaceous earth.

In 1896, the Balaam Family found the largest uniform deposit of pure diatomaceous silica, so far discovered in the world, on their property in Miguelito Canyon. The rights were sold in 1929 to the Johns Manville Corporation. At times, 1,200 people have been employed at one time at the Company. Most of the early employees lived in company housing on the property – which also had a store, a hospital and a school. Manville continues to be one of Lompoc's top industries.

The flower seed industry followed and has probably brought more fame to Lompoc than any other industry. Mr. Burpee from Philadelphia heard of the beautiful flowers growing in the yards of Lompoc residents. He came out to investigate and found it to be true. He first tried growing sweet peas here and because of the rich soil, cool ocean breezes for air pollination, and the long summers, the flowers grew profusely. Later, the sweet pea became the City flower. Today, Lompoc grows 500 varieties of flowers for seed for the world. Two major seed companies plant hundreds of acres of flowers. Lompoc has the distinction of being known as the Flower Seed Capital of the World.

## LOMPOC COLONY PERIOD (cont'd)

In 1941, 86,000 acres of the Jesus Maria Rancho owned by the Olivera family, just north of Lompoc, was purchased by the Army for an Army base. The name of the new base was Camp Cooke – named for a pioneer cavalry officer. Camp Cooke was to be used for artillery firing and tank maneuvers. It was the first armored training center on the West Coast.

Camp Cooke was at one time a prisoner of war camp. Italian and German prisoners were brought to the camp by ships. It later became a federal penitentiary – built where the United States Penitentiary is now.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, there were rumors of enemy submarines off the coast of California. A blimp base was established at the Lompoc Airport for the purpose of spotting submarines. (At that time, the Lompoc Airport was at the site of the Lompoc Shopping Center and Lompoc High School).

Camp Cooke was reactivated for two and a half years after the outbreak in Korea. In 1956, the Air Force took over Camp Cooke for the purpose of launching missiles from the West Coast, and on December 26, 1958, the first missile was sent soaring into space. The name of the new facility was changed from Cooke Air Force Base to Vandenberg Air Force Base to honor the late General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, second Air Force Chief of Staff and early proponent of aerospace preparedness.

By 1944, Lompoc had grown to over 5,000 people. Four years after the Air Force's takeover of the base in 1957, Lompoc's population had grown to more than 20,000. By 1988 the population was more than 32,300. The little farm community would be no more.

## **CITY GOVERNMENT**

The City is a general law city with a Council-Manager form of government. Under this form of government, the City Council is the policy making body and the City Manager is responsible for carrying out Council policy.

The City is governed by a five-member City Council, consisting of the Mayor elected from the City at large and four Council Members elected by Electoral Districts, as described in Chapter 2.06 of the Lompoc Municipal Code. Municipal elections are held each even-numbered year, with the Mayor and two Council Members elected on each occasion. The Mayor is elected for a two-year term, and Council Members are elected for four-year terms. The Mayor serves as presiding officer during all public meetings. The duties of the City Council include appointing a City Manager, City Attorney, and members of the commissions, boards, and committees; adopting the budget; enacting legislation and generally establishing basic policy for the City.

The City has a staff of over 400 full-time employees. The principal departments within the City's organization include the Departments of Administration, Community Development, Human Services, Fire, Library, Management Services, Police, Public Works, and Utilities.

The City forces are responsible for the distribution of electrical power within the City and the City owns and operates wastewater and water treatment plants. The City provides refuse collection and maintenance of the landfill as well as the operation of the transit system and the Lompoc Airport. The City has its own Police and Fire Departments.

### **Appointed Officers**

**City Manager.** Subject to the approval of the City Council, the City Manager performs a variety of duties designed to promote and further the interests of the City. The City Manager provides general direction to the Economic Development and Administrative support staff, department heads, and directs, controls and coordinates various City services and programs.

The City Manager meets with, provides information to, and receives direction from the City Council. The City Manager also advises the City Council on the fiscal affairs of the City and assists the Council in developing goals and the planning framework for the City. Additionally, the City Manager seeks alternative state and federal revenue sources, coordinates the preparation and submission of grant applications, coordinates and promotes economic development activities, and researches and implements modern management practices.

**City Attorney.** The City Attorney directs and performs legal services on behalf of the City, its officers, boards, committees, commissions and departments. The City Attorney attends meetings of the City Council, Planning Commission and other official bodies on request. The City Attorney renders legal advice and opinions when requested, prepares ordinances, resolutions, contracts and other legal documents, and represents the City as legal counsel.



## **CITY ADMINISTRATION**

The City's administrative organizational structure reflects modern management principles and provides an effective arrangement of City functions and activities to meet the goals, objectives and service requirements of the City.

**City Clerk's Office** – plans and supervises the work involved in maintaining official City documents and records. Additionally, the division prepares the City Council agenda, arranges for agenda distribution, attends City Council meetings, records actions taken, prepares minutes, and certificates of adoption of Council resolutions and ordinances. The City Clerk also provides information on filing procedures to potential Council candidates and assists the County in conducting municipal elections, which are consolidated with the County elections. The Office coordinates the recruitment and appointment by the City Council to City advisory bodies.

### **Community Development Department**

The Community Development Department is responsible for activities related to Planning, Community Development Block Grant programs and environmental review, as well as Parks & Recreation.

**Planning Division** – provides services related to comprehensive planning, development and maintenance of a safe and satisfying environment for the citizens of Lompoc. This is done by assisting and directing orderly growth, protecting environmental resources, and stressing high standards of architecture, landscaping, and site planning. In so doing, the division helps protect the public interest, the public's safety, and the preservation of property values. The Division provides staff services for the Planning Commission and prepares, updates, and maintains the General Plan program to ensure City policies are coordinated and implemented.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Human Service Program** – provides efficient and effective administration that results in attainment of the CDBG's program goals, which are: to provide decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities for persons of low and moderate income through public services, public facilities, housing programs, economic development, and the elimination of slums and blight.

**Building Inspection** – provides consistent and thorough inspection of all construction work to ensure compliance with approved plans, applicable codes and regulations. Inspectors investigate general code violations, substandard or unsafe buildings, and building equipment. Action is initiated to ensure compliance with applicable codes and City ordinances.

**Parks & Recreation Division** – - maintains and continues to develop City parks, public facility grounds, street landscaping, and open space, based on the expressed needs of the community and the availability of the resources to meet those, and provides the citizens of Lompoc a comprehensive program of leisure-time activities based on the expressed needs of the community, and the availability of resources to meet those needs.

## **Human Resources Department**

Human Resources enables the City to manage its human resource requirements and to improve organizational effectiveness by assisting City departments through programs of recruitment, selection, employee performance and development. Responsibilities also include employee relations, benefits, administration, developing fair and equitable policies and procedures, and attaining a diverse workforce.

**Safety and Risk Management** provides for the safety and health of City employees through training of staff in safe practices and procedures, including CPRT. Also, the division protects the safety of the public as they come into contact with City facilities, equipment and personnel.

## **Fire Department**

The Fire Department provides for community fire safety, the control and suppression of fire, emergency medical service, emergency preparedness planning, support of allied services providing for the safety of the citizenry, public safety through the coordination and enforcement of all building regulations established by the City and the State of California, including building, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, housing, sign codes, Title 24 and Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

## **Library Department**

The Library Department's mission is to be the learning center of our communities within the Lompoc Valley and the place people turn to for the discovery of ideas, the joy of reading, and the power of information.

Library's values:

- Reading improves lives.
- Literacy and the ability to learn are basic tools of economic opportunity and personal success.
- Outstanding customer service to patrons of all ages and backgrounds is a responsibility and privilege.

## **Management Services Department**

The Management Services Department provides administrative support, including treasury, finance, accounting, budget, print shop, information systems, insurance, and central purchasing and materials warehousing for all departments of the City.

**City Treasury** – is responsible for supervising receipt counting, deposits, and the accounting of fees, taxes, claims due the City and directs the preparation and collection of utility bills. A variety of financial reports for management information and Council action are prepared here.

**Finance** – is responsible for financial and budgetary control, accounting system, payroll, and debt management. Other major responsibilities of the Finance Division are assisting in the preparation and administration of the City's Biennial Budget and preparation of the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The division also administers the City's business tax (license) and permit requirements.

**Information Services** – provides information services data processing support for all departments of the City, storage of City documents with minimum space requirements, and other management information as requested. The division maintains all computing, network, Geographic Information, Intranet, Internet and telephone systems for all City departments.

**Purchasing Division** – approves all City purchasing activities, assists departments with selection of products or services maintains central stores for commonly used and bulk items, and is the central receiving area for deliveries of goods.

**Broadband Utility** – provides low cost reliable wireless Internet services to residents, businesses, and visitors to the City.

### **Police Department**

The Police Department provides effective and professional police services, in partnership with the citizens we serve, encouraging mutual respect and innovative problem solving, thereby improving the quality of life in our community.

### **Public Works Department**

**Airport/Transit Services** – provides convenient, safe, economical, and reliable transit services to meet the needs of those who are transportation disadvantaged and to help reduce traffic congestion, improve access to employment, shopping, medical, education, and recreational destinations and assist in air quality attainment. Airport programs are designed to develop and maintain a fully operational airport that meets the needs and expectations of the airport community within available resources.

**Building Maintenance**– maintains City buildings in a safe and cost effective manner for the benefit of the general public and City employees.

**Engineering** – ensures the health and safety of the community by administering the City's street capital improvement and traffic engineering programs. The Engineering Division also provides engineering support for other projects, including private development, water, sewer, storm drains, and park facilities.

**Fleet Maintenance** – provides for the orderly replacement, maintenance and repair of the City vehicular equipment in an efficient and economical manner.

**Street Maintenance** – improves the health, safety and appearance of the community by maintaining and improving the physical conditions of the City streets.

**Urban Forestry** – enhances the City beautification by providing City streets with attractive landscaped areas while providing routine maintenance and planting of street trees in a safe, efficient, and economical manner that are safe and attractive and to provide and maintain for street trees.

## Utility Department

The Utility Department provides the basic services of water, wastewater, electric, internet and broadband services to the citizens of Lompoc, which maintains and improves the community standards for health, safety and appearance.

**Solid Waste Division** – improves the health, safety, and appearance of the community by assuring a high level of refuse collection, including recycling, and providing street sweeping services. This division also operates and maintains the City's Landfill.

**Water Division** – provides production, treatment, storage, and distribution of municipal water supply as a contribution to the health and welfare of the community.

**Wastewater Division** – provides safe, and efficient conveyance and treatment of domestic and industrial wastewater, thereby making a positive contribution to the health of the community.

**Electric Division** – contributes to the maintenance and improvement of the quality of life in the City by ensuring the supply of electricity meets the needs of the community and is provided efficiently and economically.

# City of Lompoc Organizational Chart



\*Proposed Changes Effective July 1, 2023

## **COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, AND BOARDS**

The City Council is assisted by 11 citizen-advisory commissions, committees, and boards. These bodies are charged with the following responsibilities:

- Advise the City Council and the City Manager on matters within their area of responsibility and interest, as prescribed by State law, the City Council, and its ordinances and resolutions.
- Help focus attention on specific issues and problems within their scope of responsibilities and recommend actions and alternatives for Council consideration.
- Act as channels of communication and information between City Council, the general public, and special interest groups.
- Reconcile contradictory viewpoints and provide direction toward achievement of citywide goals and objectives.
- Encourage broad citizen participation in the definition and formulation of City goals and actions for their achievement.
- Balance community wants and municipal responsibility and resources.

## AIRPORT COMMISSION

### General Functions:

The Airport Commission shall promote the economic benefits of the Lompoc Airport and act in an advisory capacity in matters pertaining to safety, operations, maintenance, long-term planning, and economic development; provided, however, that the commission shall not make recommendations on rates and charges for use of the Airport. It shall also assist in the development of rules and regulations for safety, operations, hangar occupancy, hangar waiting list, and any other areas necessary for the orderly operation of the airport in association with the Aviation/Transportation Administrator.

The Commission may adopt such rules and regulations, as it may deem necessary to carry out its functions.

### Members:

Five members appointed by the City Council for four-year overlapping terms. Three members must be City residents and two members may live outside the City limits as long as their primary residence is within the boundaries of the Lompoc Unified School District.

### Meetings:

The Airport Commission shall meet, a minimum of once per calendar year on a date and at a time to best ensure a quorum is present, as determined by the Commission Chair or a majority of the Commission Members. The meetings shall be convened at Lompoc City Hall at 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc, CA, on the first Thursday of the chosen month at 7:00 p.m. The Commission may also meet on other dates and at other times as determined by the Commission Chair, the Transit/Airport Administrator, or by a majority of Commission Members. The time and date of each meeting will be made public as soon as feasible after each meeting is set.

### Officers:

A meeting shall be scheduled in February of each year to elect a chairperson and vice chairperson. Said elected officers shall hold office for a period of one year. The chairperson shall be the presiding officer at all meetings of the Airport Commission and the vice chairperson shall act as presiding officer in the chairperson's absence. The City Manager shall appoint appropriate staff members to serve as secretary and/or advisors.

### Expenses:

All operational expenses of the Airport Commission shall be approved by the City Council and such funds budgeted for this purpose shall be included within the City's budget. Members of the Airport Commission shall serve without compensation. However, actual and necessary expenditures incurred by members, while engaged on official Commission business, may be reimbursed to said members, provided such expenses have been previously approved by the department head responsible for staffing the Commission.

### Time Involved:

Time involved is estimated to be approximately 28 hours per year.

References:

Lompoc Municipal Code (LMC) section 4.04.090 and Ordinance Nos. 1352(91), 1386(93), 1579(11), and 1712(24).





## **BEAUTIFICATION AND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

### **General Functions:**

- A. The Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission has the following duties:
  - 1. To recommend and act in an advisory capacity to the City Council concerning the organization, management, promotion and conduct of programs for community recreation as well as the development and maintenance of City parks.
  - 2. The power and authority to hold public hearings and meetings to gather public comment for the purpose of obtaining facts and data concerning programs of community parks and recreation as well as beautification and appearance purposes.
  - 3. To stimulate public interest in the overall community appearance and to preserve and enhance the natural features of the Valley of Flowers.
  - 4. To encourage citizens, the business community and governmental agencies in the planting of trees, flowers and shrubs and the like.
  - 5. To encourage cooperation and coordination among private citizens to improve and make more attractive their residential and commercial property.
  
- B. Upon direction of the City Council, the Commission may adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary to carry out its functions.

### **Membership:**

Five members directly appointed by Council Members and two members appointed at large.

- A. A member of the City Council, upon commencement of that member's term of office, shall nominate for appointment or reappointment a member of the Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission whose term of office concurrently expires with that of the nominating Council Member. Two members can be nominated and appointed at-large with overlapping four-year terms. The nominee shall be interviewed by the City Council at a duly noticed public meeting and shall be appointed by the Mayor, upon approval of a majority vote of all members of the City Council.
  
- B. Each member of the City Council shall have an opportunity to nominate one appointee to become a member of the Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission. If the Mayor fails to appoint such nominee due to failure of the majority of all the members of the City Council to approve the appointment, then the member of the City Council whose nominee was rejected may nominate such other persons as necessary until the majority of the City Council votes to approve such nominee for appointment and the Mayor appoints such nominee to the Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission. The Mayor shall not refuse to appoint any nominee otherwise qualified to serve on the Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission, once the majority of all the members of the City Council have voted the approval of such nomination.
  
- C. If no qualified person has filed (and not withdrawn) an application to serve on the Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission within 90 days following the creation of a Commission vacancy or the expiration of a Commissioner's term, then the Council Member entitled to nominate an appointee to fill that Commission seat may nominate a person from any district in the City who otherwise meets all the qualifications in the

Qualifications section, below. If such person is appointed by the City Council, then such person shall be considered a temporary appointee. A temporary appointee's term shall expire either (i) 12 months following the date of appointment, unless a majority of the City Council votes to extend the term, or (ii) concurrently with the expiration of the term of office of the nominating Council Member if the nominating Council Member is not reelected, whichever occurs first. A temporary appointee may not be reappointed to that seat on the Commission as a temporary appointee after the expiration or termination of the temporary term. If, during the term of the temporary appointment, an application is submitted by a person who is qualified to fill that Commission seat, the City Clerk shall place an item on the next available City Council agenda for the City Council to consider appointment of such applicant. If such applicant is appointed, then such applicant shall immediately replace the temporary appointee.

#### Qualifications:

- A. With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph (C) and the two at-large appointees, each Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commissioner shall reside in the district represented by the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph (A). The Mayor, being elected at-large, may nominate for appointment any person residing in the City. Termination of residency in a district by a seated Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commissioner shall create a vacancy for the nominating Council Member's district on the thirty-first (31<sup>st</sup>) day after termination of residency unless a substitute residence within the district is established within thirty (30) days after termination of residency. Termination of residency in the City shall create an immediate vacancy of any Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission seat.
- B. No person shall be appointed to the Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission who is employed by the City.
- C. For purposes of paragraph (A), "district" refers to the City Council Electoral Districts established by, and described in, Chapter 2.06 of the Lompoc Municipal Code.

#### Term of Office:

With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph (C), the term of office of each Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commissioner shall expire concurrently with that of the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph (A). Vacancies on the Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission shall be filled in the same manner provided for in the Membership section above. Commissioners shall serve until their successors have been appointed by the City Council and qualified, except in the case of a vacancy due to termination of residency as described in Qualifications section above, or the expiration of a temporary appointment under Membership paragraph (C). A vacancy occurring on the City Council shall not automatically terminate the office of the Commissioner nominated by the departing Council Member; however, the new Council Member filling the Council vacancy shall be entitled to nominate a candidate of his or her choice for Commissioner in the manner provided in the Membership section, above.

Any member of the Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission may be removed from office by a majority vote of the full City Council. If any Commission member misses three consecutive meetings, without permission, his or her office becomes vacant.

Meetings:

The Beautification and Parks & Recreation Commission shall meet at such times and dates necessary to consider the activities described under Section 2.52.020. Meetings may be called by the City Manager, Community Development Director, chairperson of the Commission, or by a majority of its members.

Time Involved:

Averages eight to ten hours per month for meetings and preparation.

References:

LMC Chapter 2.52 (see also section 12.08.040) [Ordinance No. 1712(24)].

**COMMITTEE TO  
OVERSEE THE PARK MAINTENANCE AND CITY POOL  
ASSESSMENT DISTRICT (NO. 2002-01)**

**General Functions:**

The City Council annually will publicly review the budget for improvements and services funded by the Park Maintenance and City Pool Assessment District No. 2002-01 (District). The purpose of the Oversight Committee is to annually review the budget and plans to ensure that all funds of the District are spent as intended and as approved by the City Council.

**Members:**

During their terms of office, the City Council Members shall serve as the Committee Members.

**Meetings:**

The Oversight Committee will meet at least once a year or as needed more frequently to carry out their general functions.

**Officers:**

The Committee shall not elect officers. The Committee members shall designate one of their members to chair meetings and direct the performance of the Committee functions.

**Committee Report:**

Not later than November 30<sup>th</sup> of each year, the Committee shall submit to the City Council at a regular City Council meeting a report of the results of its annual review of the budget and plans of the District.

**Time Involved:**

Time involved is estimated to be approximately 6 hours per year.

**References:**

Resolution Nos. 5092(03), 5818(13) and 6146(17).

**COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**  
**(FOR SUB-RECIPIENT FINANCIAL, PROGRAMMATIC,  
AND MONITORING REPORTING POLICY)**

General Functions:

To receive and review and approve or deny any and all downgraded financial reporting requests by any sub-recipient, funded by the City (sub-recipient here, is defined by Chapter 45 of the City of Lompoc Administrative Procedures Manual).

Membership:

The Compliance Committee shall be comprised of five members: one member of the City's Economic and Community Development Department; one member from the City's Management Services Department; an annually rotating member from the Human Services Commission; an annually rotating member of the City Council; and the City Manager or his/her designee.

Meetings:

The Committee shall meet at such times and dates necessary to consider requests received by any sub-recipient.

Officers:

The Committee shall not elect officers. The Committee members shall designate one of their members to chair meetings and direct the performance of the Committee functions.

Time Involved:

Varies from year to year.

References:

Resolution No. 5916(14).

## **HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**

### **General Functions:**

The goal of the Human Services Commission is to assess community needs and requests and to provide the City Council with recommendations for fiscal support . The City Council has established the Human Services Commission to make recommendations and advise the City Council on matters affecting the human services of this community.

The Human Services Commission shall perform the following functions:

1. Assist in establishing procedures for applying for funds, criteria for allocations, and making funding recommendations to the City Council.
2. Coordinate Human Services and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Service Authority funding so that basic human service needs are met.
3. Encourage citizens to contribute to the Human Services Fund.
4. Provide recommendations to the City Council concerning matters relating to human services.

### **Membership:**

Five members appointed by the City Council.

1. A member of the City Council, upon commencement of that member's term of office, shall nominate for appointment or reappointment a member of the Human Services Commission whose term of office concurrently expires with that of the nominating Council Member. The nominee shall be interviewed by the City Council at a duly noticed public meeting and shall be appointed by the Mayor upon approval of a majority vote of all members of the City Council.
2. Each member of the City Council shall have an opportunity to nominate one appointee to become a member of the Human Services Commission. If the Mayor fails to appoint such nominee due to failure of the majority of all the members of the City Council to approve the appointment, the member of the City Council whose nominee was rejected may nominate such other persons as necessary until the majority of the City Council votes to approve such nominee for appointment and the Mayor appoints such nominee to the Human Services Commission. The Mayor shall not refuse to appoint any nominee otherwise qualified to serve on the Human Services Commission, once the majority of all the members of the City Council have voted the approval of such nomination.
3. If no qualified person has filed (and not withdrawn) an application to serve on the Human Services Commission within 90 days following the creation of a Commission vacancy or the expiration of a Commissioner's term, then the Council Member entitled to nominate an appointee to fill that Commission seat may nominate a person from any district in the City who otherwise meets all the qualifications in the Qualifications section, below. If such person is appointed by the City Council, then such person shall be considered a temporary appointee. A temporary appointee's term shall expire either (i) 12 months following the date of appointment, unless a majority of the City Council votes to extend the term, or (ii) concurrently with the expiration of the term of office of the nominating

Council Member if the nominating Council Member is not reelected, whichever occurs first. A temporary appointee may not be reappointed to that seat on the Commission as a temporary appointee after the expiration or termination of the temporary term. If, during the term of the temporary appointment, an application is submitted by a person who is qualified to fill that Commission seat, the City Clerk shall place an item on the next available City Council agenda for the City Council to consider appointment of such applicant. If such applicant is appointed, then such applicant shall immediately replace the temporary appointee.

#### Compliance Committee Member:

One member of the Human Services Commission shall be appointed as a member of the Compliance Committee (for Sub-recipient Financial, Programmatic, and Monitoring Reporting Policy).

#### Qualifications:

1. With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph 3, each Human Services Commissioner shall reside in the district represented by the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph 1, above. The Mayor, being elected at-large, may nominate for appointment any person residing in the City. Termination of residency in a district by a seated Human Services Commissioner shall create a vacancy for that Human Services Commission district on the thirty-first (31st) day after termination of residency unless a substitute residence within the district is established within thirty (30) days after termination of residency. Termination of residency in the City shall create an immediate vacancy of any Human Services Commission seat.
2. No person shall be appointed to the Human Services Commission who is employed by the City.
3. Commissioners shall not be a paid staff member for any human services organization in the Lompoc Valley.
4. For purposes of Qualifications paragraph 1, above, "district" refers to the City Council Electoral Districts established by, and described in, Chapter 2.06 of the Lompoc Municipal Code.

#### Term of Office

With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph 3, the term of office of each Human Services Commissioner shall expire concurrently with that of the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph 1, above. Vacancies on the Human Services Commission shall be filled in the same manner provided for in the Membership section, above. Commissioners shall serve until their successors have been appointed by the City Council and qualified, except in the case of a vacancy due to termination of residency as described in the Qualifications section, above, or the expiration of a temporary appointment under Membership paragraph 3. A vacancy occurring on the City Council shall not automatically terminate the office of the Commissioner nominated by the departing Council Member; however, the new Council Member filling the Council vacancy shall be entitled to nominate a candidate of his or her choice for Commissioner in the manner provided in the Membership section, above.

### Removal of Members:

Any member of the Human Services Commission may be removed from office by a majority vote of the full City Council. If any Commission member misses three (3) consecutive meetings, without permission, his or her office becomes vacant.

Meetings: The Human Services Commission shall meet at least once during the following calendar months on a date and at a time to best ensure a quorum is present, as determined by the Commission Chair or a majority of the Commission Members.

1. September – Application, Pre-Application Workshop and Needs Assessment Review
2. November – Pre-Application Workshop and Needs Assessment
3. February – Deliberations for Human Services Grant Recommendations
4. May – Grantee Workshop
5. July – Elections of Commission Officers
6. Joint Meeting of Council and Commission – only during even years (date to be determined by the City Council)

The meetings shall be convened at City Hall, in the Administrative Conference Room or in the Council Chamber. Regular meetings may be opened and, if needed, as determined by a majority of Commission Members, adjourned to a time and place certain. The Commission may also meet on other dates and at other times as determined by the Commission Chair or a majority of Commission Members. The time and date of each meeting will be made public as soon as feasible after each meeting is set.

### Officers:

A meeting shall be scheduled in July of each year to elect a chairperson and vice chairperson. Said elected officers shall hold office for a period of one (1) year. The chairperson shall be the presiding officer at all meetings of the Human Services Commission and the vice chairperson shall act as presiding officer in the chairperson's absence. The City Manager shall appoint appropriate staff members to serve as secretary and/or advisors.

### Expenses:

All operational expenses of the Human Services Commission shall be approved by the City Council and such funds budgeted for this purpose shall be included within the City's budget. Members of the Human Services Commission shall serve without compensation. However, actual and necessary expenditures incurred by members, while engaged on official Commission business, may be reimbursed to said members, provided such expenses have been previously approved by the department head responsible for staffing the Commission.

Time Involved: Approximately 60 to 80 hours per year.

References: Resolution Nos. 3754(88), 3842(89), 4113(91), 4265(93), 4467(95), 4728(98), 5214(04), 5437(07), 5483(08), 5916(14), 6075(16), 6146(18), 6373(20), 6385(21), 6474(22) and 6712(24).



## LIBRARY COMMISSION

### General Functions:

The Library Commission is responsible for providing input and recommendations on matters involving the operations of the Library Department of the City. The Commission supports the Library's Mission and Values by outreach and advocacy in the community, providing feedback to the Library from the general public, and making recommendations to the Library Director, City Manager, and City Council.

### Membership:

The Commission is composed of five members appointed by the Lompoc City Council. Commissioners serve three-year overlapping terms. Commissioners must live within Santa Barbara County Library Zone 2 (Lompoc and Vandenberg Village area), but two of the five may reside outside the City of Lompoc if their primary residence is within the boundaries of Library Zone 2.

### Meetings:

The Library Commission meets the second Tuesday of every other month, which will be January, March, May, July, September, and November, at 10:00 AM in the Lompoc Public Library Grossman Gallery, 501 E. North Avenue, Lompoc, CA.

### Time Involved:

Averages three hours per month for meeting and preparation.

### References:

LMC section 2.40.020 [Ordinance Nos. 1613(15) and 1712(24)]; Resolution Nos. 6075(16) 6550(22), and 6712(24).

## **MOBILEHOME RENT STABILIZATION BOARD**

### **General Function:**

The Mobilehome Rent Stabilization Board shall hear requests for increases, as hereinafter provided, concerning rents in mobilehome parks located in the City. The Board is empowered to set and adjust maximum rents for mobilehome park tenancies in accordance with the LMC.

The Board may adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary to carry out its functions.

### **Membership:**

During their terms of office, the City Council Members shall serve as, and provide the duties and functions of, the Mobilehome Rent Stabilization Board. While carrying out the duties of the Board, the City Council will not be considered acting in the capacity of a separate board.

No member shall be a tenant of, or involved in the management of any mobilehome park in the City. All members must be City residents.

### **Meetings:**

The Board shall meet at such times and dates necessary to consider requests for increases concerning rents in mobilehome parks located in the City. The Board shall fulfill its duties as part of regular, regular adjourned, or special City Council meetings. The officers of the Board shall be the officers of the City Council. The City Manager shall appoint appropriate staff members to serve as secretary and/or advisors.

### **Quorum:**

Three members of the Board constitute a quorum for the purposes of conducting a hearing or meeting. The decision of the Board regarding any dispute brought before it shall be by a majority vote of the members present.

### **Board Report:**

On February 1st of each year, the Board shall submit to the City Council a status report of the activities of the Board to date, including current information on rental rates and vacancy rates in mobilehome parks within the City.

### **Time Involved:**

Varies from year to year.

### **References:**

LMC section 5.60.030 [Ordinances 1258(86), 1386(93), 1504(04), 1585(12), and 1644(18)].

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

### **General Functions:**

The Planning Commission shall have authority over planning and zoning matters as set forth by the LMC or state law. Examples of some of the functions of the Planning Commission are as follows:

1. Make recommendations to the City Council regarding amendment of the General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, or Subdivision Ordinance.
2. Approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove tentative subdivision maps.
3. Approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove development plans or architectural plans, when required, for residential, commercial, industrial, and public facility projects.
4. Approve or disapprove conditional use permits and variances pursuant to the Zoning ordinance.

The Commission may adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary to carry out its functions.

### **Membership:**

Five members appointed by the City Council.

- A. A member of the City Council, upon commencement of that member's term of office, shall nominate for appointment or reappointment a member of the Planning Commission whose term of office concurrently expires with that of the nominating . The nominee shall be interviewed by the City Council at a duly noticed public meeting and shall be appointed by the Mayor upon approval of a majority vote of all members of the City Council.
- B. Each member of the City Council shall have an opportunity to nominate one appointee to become a member of the Planning Commission. If the Mayor fails to appoint such nominee due to failure of the majority of all the members of the City Council to approve the appointment, the member of the City Council whose nominee was rejected may nominate such other persons as necessary until the majority of the City Council votes to approve such nominee for appointment and the Mayor appoints such nominee to the Planning Commission. The Mayor shall not refuse to appoint any nominee otherwise qualified to serve on the Planning Commission once the majority of all the members of the City Council have voted the approval of such nomination.
- C. If no qualified person has filed (and not withdrawn) an application to serve on the Planning Commission within 90 days following the creation of a Commission vacancy or the expiration of a Commissioner's term, then the Councilmember entitled to nominate an appointee to fill that Commission seat may nominate a person from any district in the City who otherwise meets all the qualifications in the Qualifications section, below. If such person is appointed by the City Council, then such person shall be considered a temporary appointee. A temporary appointee's term shall expire either (i) 12 months following the date of appointment, unless a majority of the City Council votes to extend the term, or (ii) concurrently with the expiration of the term of office of the nominating Councilmember if the nominating Councilmember is not reelected, whichever occurs first. A temporary appointee may not be reappointed to that seat on the Commission as a temporary appointee after the expiration or termination of the temporary term. If, during

the term of the temporary appointment, an application is submitted by a person who is qualified to fill that Commission seat, the City Clerk shall place an item on the next available City Council agenda for the City Council to consider appointment of such applicant. If such applicant is appointed, then such applicant shall immediately replace the temporary appointee.

#### Qualifications:

- A. With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph (C), each Planning Commissioner shall reside in the district represented by the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph (A). The Mayor, being elected at-large, may nominate for appointment any person residing in the City. Termination of residency in a district by a seated Planning Commissioner shall create a vacancy for that Planning Commission district on the thirty-first (31<sup>st</sup>) day after termination of residency unless a substitute residence within the district is established within thirty (30) days after termination of residency. Termination of residency in the City shall create an immediate vacancy of any Planning Commission seat.
- B. No person shall be appointed to the Planning Commission who is employed by the City.
- C. For purposes of paragraph (A), "district" refers to the City Council Electoral Districts established by, and described in, Chapter 2.06 of the Lompoc Municipal Code.

#### Term of Office:

With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph (C), the term of office of each Planning Commissioner shall expire concurrently with that of the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph (A). Vacancies on the Planning Commission shall be filled in the same manner provided for in the Membership section, above. Commissioners shall serve until their successors have been appointed by the City Council and qualified, except in the case of a vacancy due to termination of residency as described in the Qualifications section, above, or the expiration of a temporary appointment under Membership paragraph (C). A vacancy occurring on the City Council shall not automatically terminate the office of the Commissioner nominated by the departing Council Member; however, the new Council Member filling the Council vacancy shall be entitled to nominate a candidate of his or her choice for Commissioner in the manner provided in the Membership section, above.

#### Meetings:

The Planning Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM, in the Lompoc City Hall Council Chambers, 100 Civic Center Plaza.

#### Time Involved:

Ten to twenty hours per month.

#### References:

LMC Chapter 2.48 [Ordinance Nos. 1386(93), 1402(95), 1424(97), 1504(04), 1677(21), and 1688(22)].

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

### **General Functions:**

The Public Safety Commission shall advise the City Council and review local concerns related to police, fire or emergency medical activities, or social conditions that present a real or perceived threat to public safety in Lompoc. The Commission's functions shall include:

1. Review public safety service delivery and address problems related to criminal activities, fear of crime, neighborhood decay and quality of life issues, as well as fire suppression and prevention efforts, and emergency medical services.
2. Attend meetings, solicit input and encourage community involvement in programs and matters of public safety and related volunteer services.
3. Make recommendations to the City Council in matters of public safety.

The Commission will abide by applicable Parliamentary procedures and all requirements of the Brown Act.

### **Membership:**

Five members to be appointed by the City Council.

1. A member of the City Council, upon commencement of that member's term of office, shall nominate for appointment or reappointment a member of the Public Safety Commission whose term of office concurrently expires with that of the nominating Council Member. The nominee shall be interviewed by the City Council at a duly noticed public meeting and shall be appointed by the Mayor upon approval of a majority vote of all members of the City Council.
2. Each member of the City Council shall have an opportunity to nominate one appointee to become a member of the Public Safety Commission. If the Mayor fails to appoint such nominee due to failure of the majority of all the members of the City Council to approve the appointment, the member of the City Council whose nominee was rejected may nominate such other persons as necessary until the majority of the City Council votes to approve such nominee for appointment and the Mayor appoints such nominee to the Public Safety Commission. The Mayor shall not refuse to appoint any nominee otherwise qualified to serve on the Public Safety Commission, once the majority of all the members of the City Council have voted the approval of such nomination.
3. If no qualified person has filed (and not withdrawn) an application to serve on the Public Safety Commission within 90 days following the creation of a Commission vacancy or the expiration of a Commissioner's term, then the Council Member entitled to nominate an appointee to fill that Commission seat may nominate a person from any district in the City who otherwise meets all the qualifications in the Qualifications section, below. If such person is appointed by the City Council, then such person shall be considered a temporary appointee. A temporary appointee's term shall expire either (i) 12 months following the date of appointment, unless a majority of the City Council votes to extend the term, or (ii) concurrently with the expiration of the term of office of the nominating

Council Member if the nominating Council Member is not reelected, whichever occurs first. A temporary appointee may not be reappointed to that seat on the Commission as a temporary appointee after the expiration or termination of the temporary term. If, during the term of the temporary appointment, an application is submitted by a person who is qualified to fill that Commission seat, the City Clerk shall place an item on the next available City Council agenda for the City Council to consider appointment of such applicant. If such person is appointed, then such person shall immediately replace the temporary appointee.

#### Qualifications:

1. With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph 3, each Public Safety Commissioner shall reside in the district represented by the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph 1, above. The Mayor, being elected at-large, may nominate for appointment any person residing in the City. Termination of residency in a district by a seated Public Safety Commissioner shall create a vacancy for that Public Safety Commission district on the thirty-first (31st) day after termination of residency unless a substitute residence within the district is established within thirty (30) days after termination of residency. Termination of residency in the City shall create an immediate vacancy of any Public Safety Commission seat.
2. No person shall be appointed to the Public Safety Commission who is employed by the City.
3. For purposes of Qualifications paragraph 1, "district" refers to the City Council Electoral Districts established by, and described in, Chapter 2.06 of the Lompoc Municipal Code.

#### Term of Office:

With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph 3, the term of office of each Public Safety Commissioner shall expire concurrently with that of the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph 1, above. Vacancies on the Public Safety Commission shall be filled in the same manner provided for in the Membership section, above. Commissioners shall serve until their successors have been appointed by the City Council and qualified, except in the case of a vacancy due to termination of residency as described in the Qualifications section, above, or the expiration of a temporary appointment under Membership paragraph 3. A vacancy occurring on the City Council shall not automatically terminate the office of the Commissioner nominated by the departing Council Member; however, the new Council Member filling the Council vacancy shall be entitled to nominate a candidate of his or her choice for Commissioner in the manner provided in the Membership section, above.

#### Removal of Members:

Any member of the Public Safety Commission may be removed from office by a majority vote of the full City Council. If any Commission member misses three (3) consecutive meetings, without permission, his or her office becomes vacant.

### Meetings:

The Public Safety Commission meets at least three times per calendar year on a date and time to best ensure a quorum is present at 6:30 p.m., on a date that would ensure a quorum is present in the Council Chamber at Lompoc City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc, CA, or at other noticed locations within the City. Meetings may be called by the City Manager, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Chairperson of the Commission, or by a majority of its members.

### Officers:

A meeting shall be scheduled in March of each year to elect a chairperson and vice chairperson. Said elected officers shall hold office for a period of one (1) year. The chairperson shall be the presiding officer at all meetings of the Public Safety Commission and the vice chairperson shall act as presiding officer in the chairperson's absence. The City Manager shall appoint appropriate staff members to serve as secretary and/or advisors.

### Expenses:

All operational expenses of the Public Safety Commission shall be approved by the City Council and such funds budgeted for this purpose shall be included within the City's budget. Members of the Public Safety Commission shall serve without compensation. However, actual and necessary expenditures incurred by members, while engaged on official Commission business, may be reimbursed to said members, provided such expenses have been previously approved by the department head responsible for staffing the Commission.

### References:

Resolution Nos. 4298(93), 4594(97), 6075(16), 6303(20), 6307(20), 6373(20), 6385(21), 6411(21), 6474(22), 6484(22), and 6712(24).

## UTILITY COMMISSION

### General Functions:

The Utility Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council in all matters pertaining to water supply, water distribution activities of the City, operation of the City's wastewater facilities, operation of the City's electric distribution system, and operation of the City's solid waste facilities, as follows:

1. Review of water supply, wastewater effluent, and solid waste disposal principles, guidelines, policies, and objectives for long term-water resource planning of the City, surrounding environs, and surrounding region, including groundwater and surface water management programs and the control and use of reclaimed water;
2. Management and operation of the water, wastewater, electric, and solid waste, utilities and facilities of the City, including the development, production, distribution, and use of water; possible use of reclaimed water from the City's wastewater system, refuse collection, waste management, recycling, and protection of the landfill capacity; and long-term capital improvement plans for the utility distribution and collection systems;
3. Periodic receipt of reports or presentations regarding Utility Divisions' financial information;
4. Periodic review of the biennial budget for the water, wastewater, electric, and solid waste utilities when directed by the City Council. This review may consist of evaluation of budgetary elements such as operating costs, capital expenditures, debt obligations, revenues, level of reserves, or financial reserve policies;
5. Review of cost of service or rate studies of consumer rates for water service, sewer service, solid waste service, and electrical energy sales within the City when directed by the City Council; and
6. Review of rules and regulations governing the City's hearing of appeals by citizens regarding the implementation of such rules and regulations in accordance with LMC Chapter 13.24.

### Membership:

Five members appointed by the City Council.

- A. A member of the City Council, upon commencement of that member's term of office, shall nominate for appointment or reappointment a member of the Utility Commission whose term of office concurrently expires with that of the nominating Councilmember. The nominee may be interviewed by the City Council at a duly noticed public meeting and shall be appointed by the Mayor, upon approval of a majority vote of all members of the City Council.
- B. Each member of the City Council shall have an opportunity to nominate one appointee to become a member of the Utility Commission. If the Mayor fails to appoint such nominee due to failure of the majority of all the members of the City Council to approve the appointment, the Councilmember whose nominee was rejected may nominate such



other persons as necessary until the majority of the City Council votes to approve a nominee for appointment and the Mayor appoints that nominee to the Utility Commission. The Mayor shall not refuse to appoint any nominee otherwise qualified to serve on the Utility Commission, once the majority of all the members of the City Council have voted the approval of such nomination.

- C. If no qualified person has filed (and not withdrawn) an application to serve on the Utility Commission within 90 days following the creation of a Commission vacancy or the expiration of a Commissioner's term, then the Councilmember entitled to nominate an appointee to fill that Commission seat may nominate a person from any district in the City who otherwise meets all the qualifications in the Qualifications section, below. If such person is appointed by the City Council, then such person shall be considered a temporary appointee. A temporary appointee's term shall expire either (i) 12 months following the date of appointment, unless a majority of the City Council votes to extend the term, or (ii) concurrently with the expiration of the term of office of the nominating Councilmember if the nominating Councilmember is not reelected, whichever occurs first. A temporary appointee may not be reappointed to that seat on the Commission as a temporary appointee after the expiration or termination of the temporary term. If, during the term of the temporary appointment, an application is submitted by a person who is qualified to fill that Commission seat, the City Clerk shall place an item on the next available City Council agenda for the City Council to consider appointment of such applicant. If such applicant is appointed, then such applicant shall immediately replace the temporary appointee.

#### Qualifications:

- A. With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph (C), each Utility Commissioner shall reside in the district represented by the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph (A). The mayor, being elected at-large, may nominate for appointment any person residing in the City. Termination of residency in a district by a seated Utility Commissioner shall create a vacancy for that Utility Commission district on the thirty-first (31<sup>st</sup>) day after termination of residency unless a substitute residence within the district is established within thirty (30) days after termination of residency. Termination of residency in the City shall create an immediate vacancy of any Utility Commission seat.
- B. No person shall be appointed to the Utility Commission who is employed by the City.
- C. For purposes of paragraph (A), "district" refers to the City Council Electoral Districts established by, and described in, Chapter 2.06 of the Lompoc Municipal Code.

#### Term of Office:

With the exception of temporary appointees discussed in Membership paragraph (C), the term of office of each Utility Commissioner shall expire concurrently with that of the Council Member who was entitled to nominate the Commissioner under Membership paragraph (A). Vacancies on the Utility Commission shall be filled in the same manner provided for in the Membership section, above. Commissioners shall serve until their successors have been appointed by the City Council and qualified, except in the case of a vacancy due to termination of residency as described in the Qualifications section, above, or the expiration of a temporary appointment under Membership paragraph (C). A vacancy occurring on the City Council shall not automatically terminate the office of the Commissioner nominated by

the departing Council Member; however, the new Council Member filling the Council vacancy shall be entitled to nominate a candidate of his or her choice for Commissioner in the manner provided in the Membership section, above. Commissioners missing three consecutive noticed meetings are deemed to have vacated their appointment. The Commissioner's appointing City Council member shall nominate a member to replace the vacated appointment under Membership paragraph (A).

Meetings:

The Utility Commission meets at such dates, times, and locations necessary to consider the activities described in Section 2.56.020, but no less than three times per calendar year. When a meeting is scheduled, the Commission shall meet on the second Monday of the month at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Lompoc City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc, CA or at an alternate noticed location. The City Council, City Manager, Utility Director, or a majority of Commission members may call meetings when deemed necessary.

Time involved: Averages 20 to 40 hours per year.

References: LMC Chapter 2.56 [Ordinance Nos. 1454(00), 1504(04), 1536(06), 1677(21), 1688(22), 1712(24) and Resolutions 6257(19) and 6712(24)].

## YOUTH COMMISSION

### General Functions:

The Youth Commission shall advise the City Council in the following areas:

1. To solicit community input on youth service needs.
2. To identify, and recommend effective solutions to youth needs and problems.
3. Initiation of various projects that will further the opportunities available to youth.
4. To represent the viewpoint of the youth by taking their suggestions, ideas, and opinions and offering them to the City Council.

The Committee may adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary to carry out its functions.

### Membership:

The Youth Commission shall consist of five members whose age is between 15 and 21 and who live within the Lompoc Unified School District boundaries; two members with no age restrictions who must be City residents; and four additional associate members who will have all the same responsibilities as regular members, except they will only be called upon to participate as part of a quorum and vote when needed to create a quorum. The associate members, on a rotating basis will vote when a regular member is absent and the associate member is needed to make a quorum of five. At no time shall the majority of the Commission reside outside the city limits. All members are appointed by the City Council to serve two-year overlapping terms. All adult members (18 years or older) will be required to submit to Live Scan (fingerprinting) for the purpose of conducting a background check as required by California Law (Public Resources Code Sec. 5164 and Penal Code Sec. 11105.3).

### Meetings:

The Youth Commission meets the fourth Monday of each month (excluding June and July, no meetings will be held during these two months) at 7:00 p.m. at the Anderson Recreation Center, 125 W. Walnut Avenue, Lompoc, CA. Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson of the Commission, or by a majority of its members.

### References:

Resolution Nos. 4299(93), 4391(94), 4492(96), 4797(99), 5214(04), and 5818(13), 6075(16), and 6146(18); and 02/21/2012 Minute Order.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **Appointment**

Applications for commission, committee, and board appointments must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office. A separate application is required for each body to which the applicant is seeking appointment. Applications are maintained by the City Clerk's Office in an active status for one year at which time they become inactive and new applications must be submitted.

Generally, the appointment process is for each commission, committee, and board to be nominated by a Council Member, which shall take place upon commencement of that Member's term of office. The appointee must be approved by the majority of the Council Members. Further details and requirements for nomination and appointment of members of commissions committees, and boards are contained in the respective ordinance or resolution for each body.

Appointment to a City commission, committee, or board is recognition of expertise and interest in a specific area as well as an honor bestowed upon a citizen. Members of an advisory body serve at the pleasure of the City Council and may be removed from office at the Council's discretion.

### **Eligibility**

Aside from the following exceptions, all applicants must reside within City limits. Exceptions to eligibility include: Two members of the Airport Commission may live outside the City limits if their primary residence is located within the boundaries of the Lompoc Unified School District (LUSD). One member of the Library Commission may live outside the City limits if they live within Santa Barbara County Library Zone 2 (Lompoc and Vandenberg Village area). At least three-fifths of the Economic Development Committee Members must reside within the 93436 zip code. Youth members (between ages 15 and 21) of the Youth Commission must live within the LUSD boundaries; however, at no time shall the majority of the Youth Commission reside outside the City limits.

City employees are not eligible to apply. Except as otherwise may be expressly provided in the Handbook or the document adopted by the Council establishing a board, commission or committee, membership on City boards, commissions, and committees shall be limited to service on one standing board, at any one time.

### **Oath of Office**

Prior to the date each term begins, Appointees must be sworn in by the City Clerk, sign a Certificate of Appointment and sign an Oath of Office. If an Appointee is reappointed, then a new Oath of Office will be administered.

## Ethical Principles

Attached to the application is a copy of the Statement of Ethical Principles Applicable to Local Government which sets forth certain principles for the proper operation of democratic government to assure that the public have confidence in the integrity of its government and public officials. Effective January 1, 2006, state law (AB 1234) required that local officials must receive training in public service ethics laws and principles *every two years*. **New officials/commission members must receive this ethics training within one year of appointment.** The AB 1234 ethics-training requirement applies to all board members, commissioners, and committee members.

## Term of Service

The terms are for a period of four years with the exception of the Library Commission, which is for three years, and the Youth Commission which is two years. Except the committee members nominated by City Council Members, appointments are for overlapping, balanced terms commencing on the first day of February of the year of appointment or for the balance of the term of a predecessor. The other exception is Human Services Commissioners whose terms commence on the first day of July of the year of appointment.

Term of office for members of the commissions by nomination of City Council Members expire concurrently with the term of the Council Member responsible for that Commission member's nomination and ultimate appointment. All commission, committee and board members will serve until their successors have been appointed by the City Council and qualified.

## Attendance

Members unable to attend meetings must advise the Chairperson or staff person assigned to the board, commission or committee. If any member misses three consecutive regular meetings, without permission, then that office becomes vacant.

## Removal

Any member of a board, commission or committee may be removed from office by a majority vote of the City Council.

## Resignation

If an appointee resigns from office before the end of the term, then a letter announcing the resignation shall be forwarded to the Mayor. Copies will be forwarded to the City Council, the City Manager, City Clerk, and the board, commission, or committee Chairperson.

## Vacancy

When a vacancy occurs, a notice will be posted and applications solicited. All active applications for that commission, committee, or board will be forwarded to the City Council for review. When there is at least one qualified applicant, the appointment will be scheduled for the next City Council meeting. An applicant is appointed to fill that vacancy by the affirmative vote of the majority of the City Council. Appointments made during the middle of a term are usually for the unexpired portion of that term.

Vacancies occurring on the Beautification and Parks & Recreation, Human Services, Parks and Recreation, Planning, Public Safety and Utility Commissions during an unexpired term will be selected in the same manner provided for in the appointment section. Vacancies on the City Council occurring during a term of office of a Council Member shall not automatically terminate the commissioner nominated by the departing Council Member (Ord. No. 1504(04)).

### Compensation

Commission, committee, and board members do not receive compensation or benefits of any kind.

### Incidental Expenses

All operational expenses of the commission, committee or board shall be approved by the City Council and such funds budgeted for this purpose shall be included within the City's budget. Actual and necessary expenditures incurred by members, while engaged on official commission, committee or board business, may be reimbursed, provided such expenditures have been previously approved by the department head responsible for staffing the commission, committee or board. It should be noted spouses who wish to accompany members on authorized trips will not be covered for any such expenses.

## ORGANIZATION

### Regular Meetings

Regular meetings are held for most commissions, committees, and boards with the exception of the Mobilehome Rent Stabilization Board, the Citizens Committee to Oversee the Park Maintenance and City Pool Assessment District (No. 2002-01), and Compliance Committee **(FOR SUB-RECIPIENT FINANCIAL, PROGRAMMATIC, AND MONITORING REPORTING POLICY)**, which meet on an as-needed basis.

### Adjourned Regular Meetings

If for any reason the business to be considered at the regular meeting cannot be completed, then the body may then adjourn to a specified time and location. A notice announcing the adjournment must be posted in the standard location within 24 hours after the time of adjournment.

### Special Meetings

Special meetings are those called by the advisory body in order to discuss an important issue that needs to be addressed immediately. Written notice, signed by the Chairperson calling the special meeting and describing the items to be discussed, shall be received by members, the local media and posted in City Hall at least 24 hours in advance of the convening of the special meeting. The notice must state the time and place of the meeting and identify the business to be transacted and only the business set forth in the notice may be considered at the meeting.

### Subcommittees

Committees may form ad hoc committees as appropriate when a particular issue or project would lend itself to involving members from various committees. Subcommittees may discuss how each committee could become more effective and address other appropriate concerns. The subcommittee or ad hoc committee shall report their findings to the City Council.

### Annual Reports

Each Committee shall submit an annual report to the City Council, suitable to its activities' schedule or as provided in the LMC or other provisions. The annual report should include the number of meetings, approximate number of citizens attending, accomplishments for the year, goals for the next year, and any other significant areas of which the City Council should be aware.

### Biennial Review of Committees

Every two years, the City Council should review each Committee to provide the following: recognize their efforts, assess accomplishments for the prior two years, suggest future goals consistent with the designated functions, and provide any other appropriate guidance.

## Joint Meetings with City Council

Joint meetings with the City Council and boards, commissions, and committees will be scheduled when appropriate generally following the biennial review to give the members appropriate directions, etc.

## Ralph M. Brown Act

The Brown Act insures all meetings, including commission, committee, and board meetings, are open to the public. Orientation materials relating to Conflicts of Interest, Brown Act and related matters are available from the City Attorney's Office.

## Informal Public Hearings

An informal public hearing is one which is not required by law but which is called in order to give the public special notice and opportunity to comment on a subject. The commission, committee, or board can set rules for notifying the public of an informal hearing, establish a time frame, and conduct the hearing in any fair way it chooses.

## Formal Public Hearings

A formal public hearing is one that must be conducted according to State or City laws, rules or regulations and is designed to solicit comment from the general public. An official Notice of Public Hearing will be published in a local paper of general circulation.

## Hearing Procedures

Hearings held by an advisory body should be fair and impartial. If a member is biased or has a personal interest in the outcome of the hearing, then that member should disqualify himself/herself and not participate.

Persons or groups who may be affected by the subject of the hearing should be given sufficient notice of the time and place of the hearing and a reasonable opportunity to be heard. They may be represented by counsel and be permitted to present oral and documentary evidence. They should also be permitted to rebut any statements made by others.

At the appropriate time, the Chairperson should open the hearing and explain to the audience the hearing procedures. If there are numerous persons who would like to participate, and all represent the same views and opinions, then the Chairperson may ask a spokesperson be selected to speak for the group. If that arrangement cannot be made, then the Chairperson may restrict each speaker to a limited time (generally five minutes) so all may be heard. Irrelevant and off-the-subject comments should be ruled out of order by the Chairperson.

The usual procedure after the hearing has been opened is for staff to present the staff report, followed by members' questions relating to the report. Proponents would be given the opportunity to present their case first. That is followed by an opportunity for opponents to present their case. After all interested persons have had an opportunity to speak, the hearing is closed, ending audience participation. Commission, committee, or board members may discuss the proposal and take an action on the proposal.



## Motions

When a member wishes to propose an idea for the board to consider, the member must make a motion. A motion goes through the following steps:

- A. The member asks to be recognized by the Chairperson.
- B. After being recognized, the member makes the motion (I move...).
- C. Another member seconds the motion.
- D. When the Chairperson feels there has been sufficient discussion, the debate is closed.
- E. If no one asks for permission to speak, then the Chairperson puts the question to vote.
- F. After the vote, the Chairperson announces the decision.

## Adjournment

When a commission, committee, or board has finished its business, a motion to adjourn is in order. That motion is not debatable; therefore, it is the duty of the Chairperson to be sure no important business is overlooked.

If the body wishes to meet before the next regularly scheduled meeting, then a motion may be made to adjourn the meeting to a designated time and place.

## Agenda

At least 72 hours before a regular meeting, an agenda shall be publicly posted which specifies the time and location of the meeting and contains a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting.

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, no action or discussion may be taken on an item that has not been placed on the agenda except as provided otherwise in the Government Code.

### Placing Business on the Agenda

Agenda items are limited to those business matters within the commission, committee, or board's subject matter jurisdiction.

Any item within the commission, committee, or board's jurisdiction may be placed on an agenda by a majority of the members of the commission, committee, or board, the City Manager, or the staff liaison for the commission, committee, or board. However, an item will not be placed on a future commission agenda if it requires the expenditure of a significant amount of public funds to prepare for the item, unless the City Council first authorizes that expenditure. In that circumstance, the commission, committee, or board may vote to request that the City Council authorize the placement of the item on the commission, committee, or board's future agenda. Only the City Council has the authority to spend public funds or to authorize others to spend public funds.

During a meeting, any member of the commission, committee, or board may request an item be placed on a future agenda for the commission, committee, or board. Outside of a meeting, if a member of a commission, committee, or board intends to make a request at an upcoming meeting that an item be placed on a future agenda, the member may inform City

staff of the member's intent to make the request. If there are no items on the agenda for the upcoming meeting, then the meeting shall nevertheless be held in order to allow the member to request the future agenda item, so long as the member notifies staff of the intent to request a future agenda item at least five (5) working days prior to the date of the upcoming meeting. If there are no items on the agenda for the upcoming meeting, and staff is not notified of an intent to request a future agenda item by the end of the fifth day prior to the date of the upcoming meeting, then the upcoming meeting may be cancelled for lack of agenda items. Failure to give staff prior notice of an intent to request a future agenda item does not prevent a member of a commission, committee, or board from requesting a future agenda item during a meeting of the commission, committee, or board.

### Minutes

Minutes of all meetings must be kept and prepared by staff. Written minutes, upon approval by the commission, committee or board, constitute the official record of its activities. Additions and correction of the minutes may be made only in public meetings, with the approval of the body, and not by the private request of individual members. It is the policy of the City Council that minutes are not verbatim. They are, instead, action minutes, recording the essence of the decisions made and significant action taken.

It is the responsibility of the staff liaison to forward copies of the agenda, related reports and minutes to the City Council where one set will be maintained in the Council office.

### Agenda Packets

Agenda packets detailing the items of business to be discussed and any communications to be presented will be prepared by the staff and delivered to the members of the body at least 72 hours before the meeting, unless urgent circumstances require later delivery. In order to be prepared for meetings, members should read these packets and contact the Chairperson if there are any questions regarding information presented in the staff reports.

All Agenda packets are to be posted to the City of Lompoc website with a hard copy of the complete packet held in the lobby of Lompoc City Hall at least 72 hours before the meeting, unless urgent circumstances require later posting. There shall be no less than 12 months of hard copies of agenda packets held in well-marked binders in the lobby of Lompoc City Hall.

### Conflict of Interest

The Political Reform Act was enacted by the State of California by an initiative, known as Proposition 9, in 1974. One of the Act's main purposes is to prevent financial conflicts of interest on the part of public officials. The Political Reform Act requires every public official to disclose all financial interest, such as investments, interests in real estate or sources of income, which may possibly affect by the exercise of the public official's official duties. If a public official has a conflict of interest, the Political Reform Act may require the official to disqualify themselves from making or participating in a governmental decision, or using their official position to influence a governmental decision.

A Conflict of Interest occurs when: a public official makes, participates in, or uses their official position to influence a governmental decision; it is foreseeable that decision will affect the official's financial interest; the effect of the decision on the official's financial interest will be material; and the effect of the decision on the official's financial interest will be distinguishable from its effect on the public generally.

### AB 992 – Social Media

The Governor signed AB 992 into law on September 18, 2020.

AB 992 allows members of legislative bodies (including commissions, committees, and boards) to have their own social media pages (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) and participate on social media to answer questions, provide information to the public, or to solicit information from the public regarding city business.

However, AB 992 also states “A member of the legislative body shall not respond directly to any communication on an internet-based social media platform regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body that is made, posted, or shared by any other member of the legislative body.”

Accordingly, a city board, commission, or committee member cannot click “reply” and directly post a “comment” on the social media post of another member of the same board, commission, or committee.

### Officers

Meetings shall be scheduled in February of each year to elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. The Human Services Commission shall meet in July to elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Elected officers shall hold office for a period of one year and until a successor has been appointed. The Chairperson shall be presiding officer at all meetings and the Vice-Chairperson shall act as presiding officer in the Chairperson's absence. The City Manager shall appoint appropriate staff members to serve as secretary and advisor.

### Role of the Chairperson

It is incumbent upon the Chairperson of the commission, committee, or board to ascertain the responsibility of their advisory body and to limit the discussion and deliberation to appropriately assigned areas of responsibility.

The Chairperson exists to encourage the input of ideas, to guide discussions in a logical and orderly fashion, and to facilitate the overall decision-making process. The Chairperson should clarify ideas as they are discussed and repeat motions made in order that all members fully understand the working of the item on which they are voting.

The Chairperson and the staff should be in contact prior to each regularly scheduled meeting in order to review and discuss the agenda.

## RELATIONS

### Relations with City Council

The primary responsibility of commissions, committees, and boards is to advise and make recommendations to the City Council. It is the Council's role to absorb the advice and recommendations offered by numerous sources and to make decisions to the best of its ability. Because the City Council is in such a position to see the broader context and is aware of other concerns, it may not always follow the recommendation offered by individual commissions, committees, and boards.

If a board, commission, or committee wishes to express a position on a particular project, program, or legislation relative to their general duties that position should be forwarded to the City Council for appropriate consideration. This includes both written and/or oral statements. This policy does not apply to matters which the board, commission, or committee has direct authority for as set forth by the LMC or state law. (Of course, this policy is not intended to deny committee members their right as an individual citizen to express their own viewpoints.)

Each Council Member will select two or three committees on which to serve as a liaison to the Council. Council Members are encouraged to occasionally attend the meetings of each Council Advisory Body. Rotation schedule for Council Members serving as liaisons to commissions will be given to Council by the City Clerk annually. The Staff or Committee will remind the Council Member of the next meeting or follow-up regarding significant issues. Council Member/liaison will then report to Council concerning the Committee meetings.

### Relations with the Public

Advisory group members are encouraged to become aware of public opinion relating to their field of influence. They should welcome citizen input at meetings and ensure that the rules and procedures for these public hearings are clearly understood.

The members should conduct themselves at public meetings in a manner that is fair, understanding, and gracious. The members should be considerate of all interests, attitudes, and differences of opinion. They should also take care to observe their appearance as well as the principle of impartiality. The members shall not accept gifts from applicants or other persons concerned with matters, which have been or might come before the commission, committee, or board.

### Relations with City Staff

Staff is assigned by the City Manager or Department Head to assist the advisory groups to effectively carry out their duties and responsibilities. Staff is to be considered an information source on City programs and activities and will provide advice, data and suggestions as requested. The amount of staff time assigned shall be reasonable and generally will not exceed two meetings per month. Reports to the City Council from commissions, committees, and/or boards will always represent the viewpoint and include the majority position of the advisory body.

## Relations with City Staff (cont'd)

In general, the City Council sets City policy, priorities and fees and provides direction to the City Manager. The City Manager is responsible for implementation of Council direction and assigns workload and tasks to City staff. Staff utilizes City boards, commissions and committees to obtain input on operations and to obtain public comment on controversial items. Operational approval is given by the City Manager (or designee) and all board, commission and committee input remains advisory. Work assignments to carry out the City Council's directions normally flow from the City Manager to the City staff to the boards, commissions and committees. The City Manager (or designee) is solely responsible for selecting the manner and method of implementing City Council policy and priorities. The City Manager (or designee) has the authority to create the necessary rules and regulations for efficient operation.

If differences of opinion exist between staff and the advisory body, then staff will identify those differences in the report to the City Council, which has responsibility for making the final decision.

The City Council expects a mutually respectful and professional relationship to be maintained between the staff personnel and advisory board members. However, should a difference of opinion or conflict arise between an individual member and staff, the Chairperson should try to mediate the issue. If the problem cannot be resolved, the Chairperson should bring the matter to the attention of the head of the department to address the matter. If the problem remains unresolved, then the matter will be referred to the City Manager, and, if necessary, the City Council.

## **COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD EFFECTIVENESS**

Commission, committee, and board meetings are the time and place for decisions and actions. The quality of those decisions, and the resultant impact on the community, is the responsibility of each member. Each has an obligation to prepare, discuss, evaluate, review, and select the best possible alternatives. The following guidelines lead to constructive meetings:

### I. Preparation for Meeting:

- a) Inform staff liaison of intent to request a future agenda item at least five (5) working days prior to date of meeting.
- b) Prepare meeting agenda, which is given to all members prior to meeting.
- c) Agenda background information is provided as applicable.
- d) Prepare to handle sensitive matters in a positive manner.

### II. Meeting Procedure:

- a) Stick to agenda – avoid straying.
- b) Suggest functional seating arrangements.
- c) Observe rules of order.
- d) Verify meeting records are kept.
- e) Bring out pertinent matters.
- f) Encourage participation.
- g) Discourage disruption.
- h) Try to resolve differences.
- i) Don't waste time.
- j) Summarize progress from time to time.

### III. Meeting Action:

- a) Recommendations in form of motion or resolution.
- b) Other action included in meeting minutes.
- c) Request future agenda items.

### IV. Meeting Follow Up:

- a) Written report.
- b) Place requested agenda items on future agenda.
- c) Distribution of minutes to others via normal channels.

## COOPERATION

Organized groups exist to complete certain tasks and to achieve certain agreed upon purposes and goals. A commission, committee, or board is a set of individuals held together by web of inter-relationships. A positive climate encourages member involvement and responsibility to take actions. Optimum productivity is achieved when the body's stated tasks are understood and are clearly visible to other members.

### Functions and Behaviors:

Pay attention to the following functions and behaviors:

- \* Prioritizing tasks
- \* Anticipating problems
- \* Analyzing problems
- \* Setting clear objectives
- \* Developing actions-options
- \* Deciding
- \* Active listening
  - Not interrupting
  - Not judging others
  - Summarizing and providing feed-back
- \* Supporting your colleagues
  - Acknowledging their positive ideas as contributions
  - Creating opportunities to involve members
  - Building on members' positive ideas
  - Encouraging different positive ideas
- \* Confronting what's happening
  - Dealing directly with conflict
  - Focusing on the idea, not the person
- \* Diagnostic skills
  - How are you working together?
  - Who isn't involved?
  - What isn't being discussed?
  - Where is your help needed?
  - When are YOU going to help?

### Effective Conflict Management

Public hearings or citizen input meetings can be difficult to manage. Participants are usually highly motivated and often nervous. When you have a group of potential adversaries in one room, the possibility of uncontrolled conflict may be very high. At commission, committee, and board meetings, your role is to guide conflict to positive results, not to eliminate it.

## **MANAGING CONFLICT**

The following suggestions should help manage conflict and confrontation effectively:

- \* Anticipate conflicts by doing your homework so you can concentrate on the dynamics of the meeting rather than learning about the topic at hand.
- \* Treat all sides fairly. Set the rules of the hearing early and make sure everyone abides by them without exception.
- \* Explain carefully the purpose of the public hearing and what action is expected at the end of the hearing. Insistence on playing by the rules is your best tool for conflict management.
- \* It is preferable for persons speaking to identify themselves, not only for the record, but also so you may address them by name; however, this is not a requirement.
- \* Set an acceptable time limit for testimony (generally three minutes) and stick to it.
- \* Make decisions promptly. Many boards can get so bogged down in procedural distractions, petty details, and endless searches for more information the issue never seems to get resolved.
- \* Try not to overreact to inflammatory comments. Most are expressions of frustration and do not require answers. Try to turn frustration to constructive avenues. Ask questions. Be specific if you can. Reinforce areas where you agree. Do not return insult for insult. Your insults can turn the audience against you for your lack of control and unfairness.
- \* Try to avoid speaker-to-audience conversation. The purpose of a hearing is for your commission, committee, or board to receive direct public input, not to engage in debate with the public speakers.
- \* If other members have questions of the speaker, then permit those questions only during the speaker's time at the podium.
- \* Use the hearing to gather necessary information about the project and individual desires concerning the proposal. Refrain from stating comments and or asking questions that might express your position until after testimony has ended.
- \* Once testimony has ended each member should be invited to discuss his or her views on the proposal.
- \* View the public hearing as an example of basic democracy in action at the local level. Make it your personal goal to make the public hearing work.



## **CONCLUSION**

The City Council would like to thank you for accepting this position and for devoting your time and effort to become actively involved in the affairs of this community. It is sincerely hoped you will enjoy your participation in the governing process in the City of Lompoc as a member of one of its advisory bodies, and you will feel totally free to call upon any of its representatives for advice, background information, or assistance.

It is with this in mind this brief handbook has been prepared. Please consider it a guide as you begin your new duties as a member of an advisory body and not as an all-inclusive set of regulations.

Welcome aboard!