

ATTACHMENT

For Item

#9

Tuesday,
January 10, 2023

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE
CLERK OF THE BOARD

From: henkinp@earthlink.net
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 10:32 AM
To: Vargas, Nora (BOS); Fletcher, Nathan (BOS); Desmond, Jim; Anderson, Joel; Lawson-Remer, Terra
Cc: FGG, Public Comment
Subject: [External] AGENDA ITEMS SHOULD BE SHORTENED, SUMMARIZED - Please include in non-agenda

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Supervisors,

Congratulations to the new hires and chair. Hola! Feliz Fiesta de Reyes!

I wanted to start out the New Year at the Board by pointing out some of the things in the composition of the agenda which may cause disharmony and misunderstandings and could be improved.

The agenda overview used to be a few paragraphs. Now, with all those multi-paragraph descriptions, it sounds like a sales pitch, not an objective description of the item. The agendas from 2012 to 2017 only have a few paragraphs.

One thing which would help is a brief statement of need. Jim I think has done a few of these. But this would help focus attention on whether an agenda item is really needed, and may also prevent misunderstandings when the entire item is read.

It's a waste of your time and ours to be given the sweet talk, and I'm sure it contributes to wrong impressions about what the real intent of an item is. This is not about free speech but about wasted time and resources.

Then, there are the equity statements, some are to the point, but since they are included for all items, some seem to degenerate into whining about the haves and have nots. Some, like Fire or Sheriff Department matters, are a restatement of the overview or rules already in force, and are probably not needed. For instance, one

equity statement (10/11/22, #2) says "Gifts and in-kind donations benefit residents of San Diego County to include subgroups such as Black, Indigenous, People of Color, Native Spanish speakers, and LGBTQ constituents." If it benefits the whole county, why mention the subgroups?

The sustainability statement seems to rehash matters already elsewhere in the overview or equity statement and is similarly not needed.

I suggest that the agenda items be released as soon as the board letter is ready, giving you and us more time to read and analyze them. And then you can form the consent calendar after truly knowing which items are actually routine, per rules 2b, 3b, and 3e. The equity and sustainability statements can be dispensed with unless they actually contribute new ideas. Let's save paper, time, and resources where we can!

Are you trying to include everyone in participating in these meetings or only those who have the time to make sense of the agendas?

Regards,

Paul Henkin