City of Alameda

Staff Report

File Number:2020-7974

City Council

Agenda Date: 6/16/2020

File Type: Council Referral

Agenda Number: 2-A

Consider Amending Sunshine Ordinance Section 2-91.4 (f) Pertaining to Special Meetings. (Counclimember Vella)

COUNCIL REFERRAL FORM

The Council can take any of the following actions:
1) Take no action.
2) Refer the matter to staff to schedule as a future City Council agenda item.
3) Take dispositive action if sufficiently noticed such that the public and Council have been provided sufficient information by the published agenda, and no formal published notice of a public hearing is required.

Name of Councilmember requesting referral: Malia Vella

Date of submission to City Clerk (must be submitted before 5:00 p.m. on the Monday two weeks before the Council meeting requested): May 13, 2020

Council Meeting date: June 2, 2020

Brief description of the subject to be printed on the agenda, sufficient to inform the City Council and public of the nature of the referral:

Amend Sunshine Ordinance language regarding special meeting noticing requirements. Currently, Ordinance 2-91.4 (f) allows for only one (1) week's notice of a special meeting limited to specifically agendized items. Under the current language, noticing is only required to members of the body and the media. In the interest of transparency and in increasing public engagement, Council should consider requiring that the noticing of special meetings, especially meetings where the Council plan on deliberating on potential changes to the city Charter, be noticed at a regularly agendized council meeting and be included on the regular council agenda. This will allow for ample notice and is more likely to be seen by members of the public who may miss a special meeting agenda that is otherwise unanticipated.

Alternatively, the Council should at least consider requiring at least ten (10) days' notice for all special meetings.

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Priority Ranking:

↑ Urgent	2	3
	1	4
	Important →	

____ 1 = Not urgent, not important
____ 2 = Urgent, not important
_X_ 3 = Urgent and important
____ 4 = Not urgent, important