Peace Lara,

This month, I'd like to share two communications:

Public Records Act Workshop

On Monday, March 15, 7-8pm, I will host an Open Government Workshop on the Public Records Act via Zoom. Participants will learn about the origins and purpose of the California Public Records Act, the types of records covered, and how to make a request. The Zoom information will be available on the City website and social media platforms. The event aligns with "Sunshine Week," an annual celebration of access to public information and open government, March 14-20, 2021.

Towards a OGC Work Plan

We have an energetic bunch of folks and we can harness that energy and work collaboratively.

- For example, at her first meeting, Commissioner Reid came in with a proposal and a presentation. Her stated objective was to "maximize transparency."

- Commissioner Lopilato did the archive work and deep listening to hear the process concerns or the sequence that led to an adversarial approach and not a collaborative approach, and then came with a proposal for the Null and Void replacement.

- Commissioner Chen has decades of experience advocating before Councils, boards, and commissions, and her complaint which challenged the City and required the City to comply with its own rules is the genesis of the process which has been a source of frustration for nearly two years. One thing I heard from Commissioner Chen last month was the need for "trust."

- Chair Tilos on multiple instances has spoken to the need to utilize technology for open government, and shared a number of suggestions pre-COVID.

There are two interrelated ways we may consider organizing our work: principles and time. As a place to start a future conversation, I suggest we consider developing goals based on different principles or specific issues/proposals:

- Technology (Tilos) - How can we use technology for open government?

- Transparency (Reid) - How can open government maximize transparency, while also respecting people's privacy and minimizing or reducing harm?

- Accessibility (Chen) - How can we make open government more accessible? What does accessible mean? Or, how can we make open government trustworthy?

- Accountability (Lopilato) - What processes can we create to ensure boards/commissions and staff are accountable to the public?

- Equity (Shabazz) - What does equity mean in relationship with open government? How can open government be more equitable?

Additionally, there are a few areas or specific "projects" where people have indicated interest. For example:

- Annual Report

- Public Presentations

- Null and Void Replacement

With goals and some priorities, we may wish to set-up a calendar for the year. Based on "bigger picture" questions, this might look like:

- April - Goals and Work Plan for 2021-22

- May - Amendments to Sunshine Ordinance

- June - Review 2020 Annual Report

I am sharing a Sample Work Plan I found online for the Social Service Human Relations Board (SSHRB). "Draft 2020 Work Plan" [https://archive.org/details/exhibit1draftsshrbworkplan]. The table includes three

columns (Goals, Proposed Actions, and Activities/Next Steps/Measurable Metrics). Granted, this is a different Commission, but I share this as one example of how we might consider developing goals and priorities as a body.

Chair and Vice Chair Election
Based on reading the bylaws, it is my understanding that elections are to occur in January of the year. Similar to letting our newly seated Commissioners have input on the Null-and-Void replacement, I recommend the new Commissioners also have an opportunity to choose the leadership of this body, near accordance with our Bylaws.

We should agendaize this for the April meeting.