


Agenda Report Reviewed by:
 City Manager: 

**CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
 CITY COUNCIL
 AGENDA ITEM**

Meeting Date: October 5, 2021
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director
Subject: Discussion and Consideration of Term Limits for Climate Action Committee
Recommendation: Approve Two Year Term Limits
Funding: Currently Budgeted: _____ Yes _____ No X N/A

Account Code/Costs authorized in City Approved Budget (if applicable) AK (verified by Administrative Services Department)

INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE:

The item is to request Council approve term limits for the Climate Action Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council recently confirmed that the Climate Action Committee (CAC) is a standing committee. As such, term limits and recruitment similar to other City Boards and committees is appropriate. The CAC has also discussed the amount of time they would prefer for these limits (two years). This item proposes two-year term limits be approved for this committee.

DISCUSSION:

The City Council recently confirmed that the Climate Action Committee (CAC) is a standing committee. Term limits were not set when the committee was formed. However, the CAC has discussed it's preferred term limits, with the recommendation of two-year term limits, which were preferred by most members. Staff and the CAC also recommend that, like other committees/boards, the term limits for members staggered so there is continuity for the committee. As with other committees, committee members would be able to re-apply for additional terms.

The CAC started meeting in January 2021, so the 'two-year' term would end December 31, 2022. Staff recommends approval of the two-year term limit, and authorizing staff to work with the CAC committee members to determine members who would have either shorter (1 year, ending December 2021) or longer (3 year, ending December 2023), so there is a balance in the staggered terms (50% of members with two-year terms ending December 31, 2022, and 50% ending either December 2021 or 2023). For instance, the newest members, both the youth member and business representative, were appointed in July 2021, so may be appropriate for their terms to end December 2023, while there may be members who would prefer to have the shorter 1-year term limit. After the initial 'staggering' of limits, future appointments would be two year terms (or appointments for the 'remainder' of those terms if a vacancy is created mid-term).

Position	Person	Appointment Date and /Proposed Term
City Councilmember	Diana Rich	December 2020 – tbd
City Councilmember (alternate)	Sarah Glade Gurney	January 2021– tbd
Planning Commissioner	Vacant	October 2021 – December 2024
Sebastopol Climate Action/Climate Group representative	Liselotte Pierce	October 2020 – tbd
Sebastopol Climate Action/Climate Group representative	Dena Allen	October 2020 – tbd
Sebastopol Climate Action/Climate Group representative	Alex Goodman	October 2020 – tbd
Sebastopol Climate Group / climate background representative	Gerald Glaser	October 2020 – tbd
Rights of Nature background	Sunai Shanti Sikand	October 2020 – tbd
Climate background	Woody Hastings	October 2020 – tbd
Climate background	Kenna Lee	October 2020– tbd
Climate background	Josho Somine	October 2020– tbd
Sebastopol business owner	Debbi Burnes	August 2021– December 2023
Youth Representative (ages 17-23)	Jesenia Garcia	August 2021– December 2023
Youth Representative (ages 17-23)	VACANT*	*(previously held by Sarah Elliot, who served from Oct 2020 to Sept 2021)
Environmental justice representative	VACANT	January 2021 -December 2023

GOALS:

This action supports the following City Council Goals and General Plan Actions: City Council Goal 5: Provide open and responsive Municipal Government Leadership, as it communicates the CAC’s work to the Council and general community. It also relates to General Plan Goal CSF 6, policy SCF 6-1, Continue to maximize public participation in local government actions and maintain excellent levels of City government services.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, staff anticipates receiving public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report. Such comments will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting. In addition, public comments may be offered during the public comment portion of the agenda item.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to schedule meeting date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the recommended action tonight.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Sebastopol City Council approve two-year term limits for the Climate Action Committee. Term limits would be staggered with approximately half of the members' terms expiring December 31, 2023, and others ending either December 31, 2021 or December 31, 2023.

Attachments: none