



MEMORANDUM

City Manager's Office

DATE: June 1, 2017

TO: Human Relations Commission

FROM: Audrey Seymour Ramberg, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2017-18 Work Plan Final Discussion

BACKGROUND

At its May 4, 2017 meeting, the Human Relations Commission (HRC) reviewed the work plan status for Fiscal Year 2016-17, identified ongoing work plan items that will carry over to the next fiscal year, and engaged in a discussion with staff about proposed new projects and tasks for the Fiscal Year 2017-18 work plan.

DISCUSSION

After dialogue and discussion, Commission members prioritized each of their top four work plan items. The following three proposed work plan items received four or more votes and will be reviewed and finalized by the Commission at the June 1 meeting:

Plan and implement a Multicultural Festival in 2018

The Multicultural Festival was approved by the City Council as a one time, pilot event to be held during the 2016-17 fiscal year. In order to conduct a citywide event, the Commission reduced the typical number of Civility Round Table events from two to one. A funding request to hold a Multicultural Festival in 2018 was not included in the proposed FY 2017-18 General Operating Fund budget. Due to the staff time required to plan and implement annual events of this nature, limited staff capacity in light of multiple City and departmental priorities, and the lack of funding that would be required to stage this event, staff recommends that the Multicultural Festival be considered as a possible bi-annual event after assessing the success of the 2017 event.

Assess the need and present options related to Immigrant Rights/Education/Policies.
These options could include:

- a) Invite Consular Representative/Visits in Mountain View to present on services provided/referrals
- b) Joint Civility Roundtables (e.g. Sanctuary City policies)
- c) Assistance for families of mixed immigration status
- d) Sanctuary City policies
- e) Voting right for residents at school board/municipal level
- f) Workshops on citizenship
- g) Municipal ID's
- h) Invite Immigration & custom enforcement for community talk, education, relationship building
- i) Anti-registry policies
- j) Refugee Integration
- k) Understand what other communities are doing

On May 16, the City Council adopted the FY 2017-18 through FY 2018-19 City Council Goals, which included a goal to Promote Strategies to Protect Vulnerable Populations and Preserve the Socioeconomic and Cultural Diversity of the Community. Projects identified under this goal include (1) Collaborating with regional partners to fund and/or improve awareness of and access to information and referral resources for immigrants and mixed status families, (2) study and provide policy recommendations on an anti-registry policy, (3) becoming a sanctuary city; (4) adopting a Freedom City Policy, and (5) collaborating with regional partners to explore opportunities to advocate for federal policies that protect immigrant rights and vulnerable populations.

Over the next several months, staff will be developing work plans that will identify actions and timing for when these items will return to the City Council for consideration. To support the goals of the City Council, staff recommends that the HRC consider conducting a needs and assets assessment to learn more about resources, services, policies, and programs that are currently available for immigrant communities that reside in Mountain View. Such an assessment will assist in identifying services, regional agencies and community based organizations and any program gaps, highlight best practices, or assist in the development and implementation of new policies.

Explore the possibility of establishing advocacy for voting rights for non-citizen residents at the school board/municipal level.

Staff needs more information regarding how such a change could be made and what role the City and the HRC might have in the process. Staff recommends that the HRC

work plan item be scoped to explore the feasibility, process, and roles for changing local voting rights.

NEXT STEPS

Staff recommends that the HRC discuss and finalize the proposed work plan items for the next fiscal year to be submitted to the City Council for approval in September 2017.

Attachments: 1. May 4, 2017 Tally of FY 2017-18 Proposed Work Plan Items