

## CITY OF PALM DESERT

### CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

#### MEMORANDUM

From: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

To: Mayor Harnik and City Council

Date: July 8, 2025

**Subject: ITEM 14b – INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PALM DESERT MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.34.050 RELATED TO ADVISORY BODY OFFICERS**

---

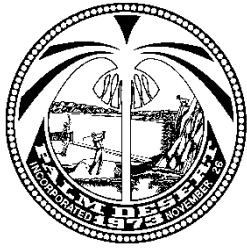
On June 26, 2025, the City Council introduced an ordinance establishing a new requirement that advisory body officers may not serve in consecutive terms, in order to expand leadership opportunities to more members. Following introduction, the City Council Subcommittee on Boards and Committees identified a flaw in the structure: under the original policy, a member could serve as Chair, then be appointed Vice Chair the following year, and rotate back into the Chair role again the year after. This created a scenario where the same individual could hold a leadership position every other year—technically in compliance, but contrary to the policy's overall intent.

To address this, the Subcommittee directed staff to develop an alternative model that promotes fairness, transparency, and predictability. In response, staff implemented a numeric seat-based rotation system that assigns each member a seat and sets a clear multi-year schedule for rotating into the Chair role. This approach avoids ad hoc selections and allows all members to know when their leadership term is expected.

Without immediate implementation, different Chair selection methods would have been used within the same month, resulting in a fragmented rollout and inconsistent application of the new policy.

**ATTACHMENT:**

A. Memo on Annual Chairperson Rotation and Numeric Seat-Based System



## CITY OF PALM DESERT

### CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

#### MEMORANDUM

**From:** Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk  
**To:** Boards, Commissions, Committees & Task Forces ("Appointed Bodies")  
**Date:** July 7, 2025  
**Subject:** **Implementation of Annual Officer Rotation and Numeric Seat-Based System**

---

The City Council recently took action to ensure that all appointed body members have an opportunity to serve in leadership roles as Vice Chairperson and Chairperson. To further refine the process, the City Council Subcommittee on Boards and Committees has directed staff to implement a new procedure that establishes a clear and consistent rotation system to provide broader opportunities for all members.

As such, effective immediately, the following procedures will be followed:

#### **Key Provisions:**

- **Annual Rotation** – Chairperson and Vice Chairperson positions shall rotate each year.
- **One-Year Term** – Each officer serves a one-year term.
- **No Consecutive Terms** – No member may serve consecutive terms in the same officer role.
- **Numeric Seat-Based System** – A numeric rotation schedule is used to determine the order in which members serve as Chairperson.

#### **How the Numeric Rotation Works:**

Each member will be assigned a numbered seat. The current Chairperson will be designated as Seat 7 (end of the rotation), and the current Vice Chairperson will be designated as Seat 1 (start of the rotation). All remaining members will be assigned seat numbers alphabetically. The seat number determines when a member's turn to serve as Chairperson arrives (for example, Seat 1 first, followed by Seat 2, and so on). If a member is in their first year of service when their scheduled turn occurs, their appointment as Chairperson will be deferred to the end of the sequence, and the next eligible seat will advance. Members may serve as Vice Chairperson in any year, regardless of tenure. Members may also defer their turn as Chairperson or Vice Chairperson, in which case their appointment will be moved to the end of the rotation.

**Please note:** While deferment is permitted, it is the City Council's strong desire that all members participate in leadership when eligible. Serving as Vice Chairperson and Chairperson is encouraged.

#### **ATTACHMENT:**

A. Annual Chairperson Rotation and Numeric Seat-Based System



# CITY OF PALM DESERT

73-510 FRED WARING DRIVE  
PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA 92260-2578  
TEL: 760 346-0611  
CITYCLERK@PALMDESERT.GOV

## ATTACHMENT A Annual Chairperson Rotation and Numeric Seat-Based System

This list reflects the current roster of members serving on the City's appointed bodies and includes newly assigned seat numbers that determine the rotation schedule for service as Chairperson under the recently adopted numeric seat-based system. As outlined in the City Clerk's July 2025 memo, each seat is scheduled to rotate into the Chairperson role in sequential order, beginning with Seat 1. Members may refer to their assigned seat to identify their expected Chair term and position in the rotation.

### ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMISSION

Seat	Member	Chairperson Term
1	James G. McIntosh	July 2025 – June 2026
2	James Edward Blakley	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Dean Wallace Colvard	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Geoff Gregory	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Nicholas Latkovic	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Francisco Sanchez	July 2030 – June 2031
7	John Vuksic	July 2031 – June 2032

### BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS

Seat	Member	Chairperson Term
1	Joseph Gaugush	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Lindsay Holt	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Allan Levin	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Faith Messenger	July 2028 – June 2029
5	<i>Vacancy</i>	July 2029 – June 2030

### CIVIC ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Seat	Member	Chairperson Term
1	Kristy Giraud	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Joyce Haraughty	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Stacie Hedges	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Jon Holan	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Nancy Provost	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Franchon-Marie Siddiq	July 2030 – June 2031
7	Robin Stewart	July 2031 – June 2032
8	Emily Vogt	July 2032 – June 2033

**CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Maureen Boren	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Lori Flint	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Aaron Grant	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Thomas Mitze	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Pia Rose	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Ann Simley	July 2030 – June 2031
7	Elizabeth Hauer	July 2031 – June 2032

**CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Linda Vassalli	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Kim Housken	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Carol Marcuse	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Carrie Mcleod	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Thomas Mortensen	July 2029 – June 2030
6	David Toltzmann	July 2030 – June 2031
7	Rochelle McCune	July 2031 – June 2032

**EL PASEO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Rebecca Elliott	July 2025 – June 2026
2	David Fletcher	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Mahasti Islami	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Alexander Longmuir	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Michelle Maspero	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Angela Rafferty	July 2030 – June 2031
7	Patrick Klein	July 2031 – June 2032

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Gretchen Heuring	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Faith Messenger	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Bob McCauley	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Michael Morsch	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Robert Leo	July 2029 – June 2030

**HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Scott Marks (At-Large)	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Joseph Butts (PSC)	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Davis Meyer (Community)	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Brett Moscrop (Business)	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Amando Sanders ( <i>Lived Exp.</i> )	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Franchon-Marie Siddiq (HC)	July 2030 – June 2031
7	Diane Vines (Business)	July 2031 – June 2032

**HOUSING COMMISSION**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Franchon-Marie Siddiq	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Jann Buller	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Olivia Docken	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Andrew Firestine	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Dominic Moore (HA Tenant)	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Melody Morrison (Sr. HA Tenant)	July 2030 – June 2031
7	Kathleen Bauer	July 2031 – June 2032
N/A	Patricia Pyle (Alternate)	

**LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Matthew Johnson	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Jann Buller	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Risa Lumley	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Cathy Malone	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Paul Murphy	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Ralph Perry	July 2030 – June 2031
7	Robin Stewart	July 2031 – June 2032

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Ralph Perry	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Randy Guyer	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Rob Langford	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Paul Murphy	July 2028 – June 2029
5	David O'Donnell	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Tim Skogen	July 2030 – June 2031
7	John Maldonado	July 2031 – June 2032

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Lindsay Holt	July 2025 – June 2026
2	John Collum	July 2026 – June 2027
3	John Greenwood	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Alex Meyerhoff	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Josh Nickerson	July 2029 – June 2030

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Terry Kramer	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Jeff Alley	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Joseph A. Butts	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Douglas Luhning	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Stephen Nelson	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Frank Taylor	July 2030 – June 2031
7	Kevin Wahlstrom	July 2031 – June 2032

**RESOURCE PRESERVATION & ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Chairperson Term</b>
1	Estelle Dahl	July 2025 – June 2026
2	Lizze Ferrari	July 2026 – June 2027
3	Dean Lee Gatons	July 2027 – June 2028
4	Geoffrey Gregory	July 2028 – June 2029
5	Michael Morsch	July 2029 – June 2030
6	Donald Zeigler	July 2030 – June 2031
7	Berlinda Blackburn	July 2031 – June 2032