

Mayor Mary Salas
Chula Vista City Hall
276 Fourth Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910

Good Day Mayor Salas:

I am hoping you will take the time to read this additional input on the proposed consolidation of the Healthy Chula Vista Advisory Commission and the Chula Vista Commission on Aging.

A. THE CREATING AN AGE-FRIENDLY CITY REPORT

This report was adopted by the Chula Vista City Council on July 10, 2018. This comprehensive report provided the following commission definitions (page9).

- Healthy Chula Vista Advisory Commission (HCVAC): The HCVAC was formed in April 2016 as an implementation measure of the Healthy Chula Vista Action Plan (HCVAP). The commission consists of nine members: five experts in the focus area of the HCVAP and four residents that represent each of the City Council Districts. Working with Healthy Chula Vista Initiative staff from the Development Services Department, the commission oversees implementation of over 60 strategies within the HCVAP that address public health issues and overall well-being of residents through policy and programs to improve the City's physical and social environments, promote awareness and access to services, and build community partnerships.
- Commission On Aging (COA): The COA was formed to advise city staff and Council on matters affecting older residents of the city. The commission consists of seven members who are representative of the total racial, religious, ethnic and social spectrum of senior citizens. Members take steps to develop a mutual understanding and respect between seniors and the balance of the community, review existing programs and recommend modifications, and provide a forum where older citizens may voice their concern and suggestions. The COA works with the Community Services Department Recreation staff to develop programming for older adults throughout the city and t the Norman Park Senior Center.

In January, 2018, both commissions voted to serve as the "Age-Friendly Joint Task Force" as a way of keeping the Age-Friendly initiative on track.

OBSERVATIONS

1. Both commissions were formed to pursue independent goals and purposes and deemed necessary by the City Council.
2. The commissions were tasked to ***serve as the "Age-Friendly Joint Task Force" as a way of keeping the Age-Friendly initiative on track.*** There was no decision to consolidate these commissions as their independent responsibilities were important enough to act as independent commissions.
3. The "Goals and Objectives" (Appendix 1) assign specific, independent, non-overlapping responsibilities for both commissions to manage.
4. The responsibilities of the HCVAC have further expanded to manage city wide projects (such as Harborside Park and community health programs) further stretching the commission resources.

QUESTIONS

1. There was City Council consensus in 2018 that both independent commissions were necessary. ***What has changed now that additional emphasis is being placed on senior programs and issues?***
2. There is concern that adding the additional responsibilities of the COA will result in diverting attention from the recognition and development of programs and activities for seniors and achievement of the COA goals and objectives.

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B CONSOLIDATION PROPOSAL DATA SOURCE

The consolidation proposal used data (see attachment 1) from ten cities of similar population size. The data identified the population and the corresponding number of commissions for each city. It did not identify the types of commissions within each city.

Of the ten cities compared:

- One city (San Bernardino) listed their senior services under their Commission. This is a nine (9) member commission,charged with advising the Mayor, City Council and City staff on community needs for the purpose of establishing City priorities, goals and objectives with respect to parks, recreation and community services, youth services, and senior services.
- Seven cities listed some form of “Senior” or “Aging” council or commission: ; Anaheim (Senior Citizens Commission), Stockton (San Joaquin County Commission on Aging), Riverside (Commission on Aging), Irvine (Senior Citizens Council), Fremont (Senior Citizens Commission), Moreno Valley (Senior Citizens Advisory Board) and Oxnard (Senior Services Commission) all have either
- Two cities (Santa Ana and Bakersfield) did not identify a senior related commission.

OBSERVATIONS

Even with fewer commissions 80% of the cities used to support the commission consolidation proposal maintain some form of “Senior” or “Aging” council or commission.

QUESTIONS

If the data city sources understand the importance of the need for some form of “Senior” or “Aging” council or commission why is Chula Vista downplaying the recognition of this important population niche?

C. WHY NOT TO CONSOLIDATE THE HCVAC AND THE COA

The Commission on Aging was formed to pursue independent goals and purposes affecting older residents of the city and repeatedly deemed necessary by the City Council.

The Commission on Aging serves as an integral partner on the “Age-Friendly Joint Task Force” as a way of keeping the Age-Friendly initiative on track.

The Commission On Aging has developed an aggressive set of goals and objectives designed to complement the responsibilities assigned in the **AGE-FRIENDLY CITY** report “Goals and Objectives” (Appendix 1).

The responsibilities of the HCVAC have further expanded to manage city wide projects (such as Harborside Park and community health programs) further stretching the commission resources.

D. NET RESULT

If the HCVAC and the COA **DO NOT CONSOLIDATE** the net result will still be a reduction of six commissions.

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E RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Reconfirm the appointment of both the HCVAC and AOC to serve as the “Age-Friendly Joint Task Force” and assign both specific tasks as a way of keeping the Age-Friendly initiative on track.
2. Implement the responsibilities assigned in the **AGE-FRIENDLY CITY** report “Goals and Objectives” Appendix 1).
3. Once established reconfirm the understanding of the responsibilities and authorities of the Staff Liaisons and Commissioners.
4. Increase the COA meeting frequency to monthly meetings to achieve the stated goals and objectives.
5. Allocate an operating budget for the COA based on projected programs and activities.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information and voting to NOT APPROVE the proposed consolidation of the Healthy Chula Vista Advisory Commission and the Commission On Aging.

Sincerely,

Tim Aufmuth



By Comparison

Agency	Population	FTE Positions	Commissions Boards	
Bakersfield	407,615	1,960	10	
Anaheim	345,940	2,040	15	Senior Citizen Commission
Stockton	322,120	1,769	19	San Joaquin County Commission on Aging
Riverside	317,261	2,626	19	Commission on Aging
Santa Ana	309,441	1,342	10	
Irvine	309,031	891	21	Senior Citizen Council
Chula Vista	277,220	1,226	24	Commission on Aging
Fremont	227,514	995	15	Senior Citizens Commission
San Bernardino	222,203	756	14	<p><u>Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission</u></p> <p>This is a nine (9) member commission, established by Resolution No. 2018-47, charged with advising the Mayor, City Council and City staff on community needs for the purpose of establishing City priorities, goals and objectives with respect to parks, recreation and community services, youth services, and senior services; and evaluating community agencies and organizations receiving City funds for the purpose of providing recreation services, youth and senior services.</p>
Moreno Valley	211,600	352	11	Senior Citizens' Advisory Board
Oxnard	201,879	1,439	10	Senior Services Commission
Fontana	210,761	605	2	