

Item 5.1: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Changes to the Functions and Duties of the Human Relations Commission

Human Relations Commission

March 28, 2024

Background



On February 20, 2024, the City Council referred proposed amendments to CVMC 2.36 to the Human Relations Commission for feedback and guidance.



Request included a 60-day window for the feedback from the Commission.



Tentatively scheduled to be before City Council on April 23, 2024.



Feedback can be presented in form of a memo and presented to City Council on April 23, 2024.

CVMC 2.36.030 Functions and Duties

- In cooperation with other relevant boards and commissions ~~and the Chief's Community Advisory Board~~, the Human Relations Commission shall perform the following duties and functions:

CVMC 2.36.030 Functions and Duties (A-D)

- A. Foster mutual understanding, respect and good will among all groups identified in CVMC [2.36.020\(A\)](#);
- ~~B. The first duty of the Commission shall be to assist the City, by completing all required steps, to become a Certified Welcoming City;~~
- **BE.** Enlist the cooperation of the various groups, fraternal and benevolent associations and other groups in Chula Vista in programs and campaigns devoted to eliminating group prejudice, intolerance, bigotry and discrimination;
- **CE.** Study the problems in the event of civil unrest and examine the causes;
- **DE.** Study, review, analyze, and report to the Mayor, City Council and the City Manager the studies of state and federal agencies, and legislative enactments of state and federal governments, including but not limited to the several civil rights acts of the United States government and the state;

CVMC 2.36.030 Functions and Duties (E. 1-2)

- **EF.** Work together with City, state and federal agencies in developing programs and events showing the contributions of the various groups to the culture and traditions of the City, state and nation, **with support from the Office of the City Manager;**
- 1. Recognize on annual basis City of Chula Vista residents who contribute to improved human relations among all Chula Vistans. The commission shall recommend Chula Vista residents for this honor following a nomination and selection process and resolution by the commission. The honorees will be recognized at a regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council in the month of September.**
 - 2. Sponsor in partnership with Office of the Mayor and City Council: Black History Month, Women's History Month, Asian/Pacific Islander Month, Jewish American Month, Arab-American Month, Disability Awareness Month, Pride Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Filipino American Month, and Native American Month.**

CVMC 2.36.030 Functions and Duties (E. 3-5)

3. Sponsor in partnership with the Office of the Mayor and City Council significant days of celebration through official ceremony to be held at City Hall Complex at six pm to include- Memorial Day Celebration, Veterans Day Celebration, Pride Flag Raising Day, Juneteenth Flag Raising, Kumeyaay Heritage Celebration on Indigenous Peoples Day, Youth Day, and Seniors Day.
4. Cosponsor with the Office of the Mayor and City Council the annual 4th of July Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks Program
5. Acknowledge through the Human Relations Commission City Website Page important dates of major faith traditions through a calendar. Include brief narratives that inform Chula Vista residents about such traditions.

CVMC 2.36.030 Functions and Duties (F-G)

- **FG.** Promote the establishment of local community organizations in building and strengthening relationships with community groups and nonprofits; **In recognition of the growing community of unhoused Chula Vista residents promote understanding, cooperation, and general support for the well-being of this community.**
 - Strengthen relationships with community groups and nonprofits **that support and assist the growing unsheltered community in the City of Chula Vista. (Commission preferred language)**
- **GH.** Work with relevant boards and commissions, including the ~~Chief's Community Advisory Board~~ **Office of the Police Chief**, as needed to explore ways to improve municipal services and community relations within the scope of the Commission's purpose as stated in CVMC [2.36.020\(A\)](#);

CVMC 2.36.030 Functions and Duties (H)

- **H.** Advise the City Council and the City Manager of policies and programs of a formal and informal nature that will aid in eliminating all types of discrimination based on race, religion, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, medical condition, place of birth, citizenship/immigration status, marital status, or military service, and secure the furnishing of equal services to all residents and maintain the quality of opportunity for employment and advancement in the City government.

The Commission shall be advisory in its function, and shall have no police or enforcement powers. It shall issue no reports or recommendations except through the City Council and the City Manager. (Ord. 3405 § 1, 2017; Ord. 3211 § 10, 2011; Ord. 2543 § 2, 1993; Ord. 1909 § 2, 1980; Ord. 1857 § 1, 1979; Ord. 1120 § 1; prior code § 1.4.3).

CVMC 2.36.040 Membership

- A. The Human Relations Commission shall consist of **15+** Voting Members and one Youth Advisory Member. **Each City Council Member will nominate three members that reside in their respective districts, and the Mayor will nominate three at-large Chula Vista residents and the Youth Advisory Member, to be appointed** in accordance with Article [VI](#) of the City Charter, Chapter [2.25](#) CVMC, and this chapter.
- B. The Members shall be: (1) representative of the diversity of the City; (2) specifically chosen to reflect the interests and concern with protection of civil liberties of all people which make up the City's residents; (3) committed to fostering better human relations in the City of Chula Vista; and (4) associated with the business and/or civic activities of the City. (Ord. 3539 § 1(E), 2022; Ord. 3405 § 1, 2017; Ord. 3211 § 10, 2011).