

**RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE
FOR THE AURORA, COLORADO, CITY COUNCIL**

In accordance with Article III, Section 8, of the City Charter of the City of Aurora, Colorado, the following Rules of Order and Procedure for the City Council are hereby adopted.

PREFACE

The election of an individual to City Council imposes a heavy responsibility to observe those tenets and requirements which flow from the solemn oath administered at the time of installation to office.

“Having been duly elected/to the City Council for the City of Aurora, Colorado, I, (_____), do solemnly swear or affirm that I will faithfully and impartially administer the affairs of such office in accordance with the Constitution of the United States of America, the State of Colorado, and the charter and ordinances of the City of Aurora to the best of my judgment and ability, so help me God.”

These Rules are predicated both upon the duties and responsibilities contained in the oath of office, and the four core attributes expected to be demonstrated by every City elected official, officer, and employee: integrity, respect, professionalism, and customer service.

A. **CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

1. **Regular City Council Meetings.** The City Council¹ will meet in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Aurora Municipal Center on designated Mondays at 7:30 p.m., and ~~at a~~ on such other days and at such other times as may be chosen by City Council at the last meeting of the calendar year, unless otherwise determined at a prior meeting. Once defined, changes to the calendar can only occur with a unanimous vote of the City Council. At least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting, the City Council shall post the agenda of the meeting in the entryway at the east entrance of the Aurora Municipal Center. The posting location shall be redesignated annually at the last regular City Council meeting of each calendar year.
2. **Special Meetings.** A special meeting of the City Council may be called by the Mayor alone or by any six (6) other Council Members. The request shall be made on forms provided by the City Council’s Management Analyst. The form shall indicate the names of the Council Members requesting the meeting and shall be transmitted to the City Manager’s Office for filing with the City Clerk. The special meeting shall be held at a time and place designated in the Call; provided, however, that all Council Members shall be notified at least twenty-

¹ Unless otherwise apparent from the context of a particular rule, the reference to "City Council/Council Member" shall be construed to include the Mayor.

four (24) hours in advance of the date, time, place and subject matter of said special meeting. Council Members not receiving twenty-four (24) hours' notice may sign a waiver of this requirement at or subsequent to the meeting. The posting method described above for regular City Council meetings shall also be applicable to any special meeting.

3. Conference Calls. No conference calls shall be instituted in place of a special meeting unless an emergency necessitates such arrangement.
4. Notice. Notice shall mean personal notification of the Council Member by any two of the following methods: phone; in person; or by transmitting a notice to the Council Member's City electronic mail address at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time or at the time the decision is made to call the meeting, whichever occurs first.
5. Study Sessions. Study Sessions may be held at any time or place upon the call of the Mayor alone, or, in the absence of the Mayor, upon the call of the Mayor Pro-Tem alone, or at the request of six (6) other Council Members. No formal legislative action shall be taken at any Study Session and no quorum shall be necessary. Formal legislative action shall be deemed to be the enactment of an ordinance or the promulgation of a resolution. However, efforts to arrive at a consensus position for the purpose of developing subsequent legislative action shall be permitted. Failure to notify all Council Members shall not adversely affect the calling of a Study Session, provided that the City Council's Management Analyst has used reasonable efforts to notify all Council Members at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of a Study Session Council Members may appear remotely at Study Sessions for the limited purpose of accommodating a serious health or medical condition or an emergency or when a Study Session is called with less than 48 hours notice. Study Sessions needed by staff shall be requested through the City Manager to City Council.
6. Executive Session. An executive session may be called in accordance with state law. Permissible topics for an executive session are:
 - a. The purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest; except that no executive session shall be held for the purpose of concealing the fact that a member of the local public body has a personal interest in such purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale;
 - b. Conferences with an attorney for the local public body for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions. Mere presence or participation of an attorney at an executive session of the local body is not sufficient to satisfy the requirements of this subsection;
 - c. Matters required to be kept confidential by federal or state law or rules and regulations. The local public body shall announce the specific citation of the statutes or rules that are the basis for such confidentiality before holding the executive session;
 - d. Specialized details of security arrangements or investigations;

- e. Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators;
- f. Personnel matters except if the employee who is the subject of the session has requested an open meeting, or if the personnel matter involves more than one employee, all of the employees have requested an open meeting;
- g. Consideration of any documents protected by the mandatory nondisclosure provisions of part 2 of article 72 of title 24, C.R.S., commonly known as the “Open Records Act.”

Prior to the time the members of the public body convene in executive session, the City Clerk or designee shall announce the topic(s) of the executive session in accordance with Section 24-6-402(4), C.R.S. Where possible, the agenda of an executive session which contains the topic(s) of the discussion shall be available for public inspection at the municipal records office located on the first floor of the Aurora Municipal Center. State law governs the circumstances under which recording of an executive session is required. The City Clerk shall be responsible for securing the signature of the Mayor and the City Attorney, if applicable, on the mandatory certification of compliance at the conclusion of every executive session. Council Members shall keep all information, whether written or verbal, from an executive session confidential and shall not discuss or provide such information with/to anyone who was not present in the executive session. A Council Member who was not present during the executive session may listen to the recording of the executive session and shall be subject to the same provisions of confidentiality herein. When appropriate, only the Mayor, City Manager or designee and the Council Appointees may take action based upon activity in an executive session. No conference calls or video access on the part of Council Member(s) shall be permitted. Materials presented during an executive session by an outside entity (e.g., Aurora Economic Development Council (AEDC)) may be requested to be returned at the conclusion of the executive session.

- 7. Seating. At the conclusion of: (i) the first regular meeting in December after the municipal elections in odd-numbered years; and (ii) the last regular meeting of the year in even-numbered years, seating locations (Ward and At-Large Council Members) for the subsequent calendar year shall be arranged according to seniority of the Council Members, calculated by the accumulation of the total years and months of Council Member service. The most senior Council Member shall be seated to the left of the City Attorney from the perspective of the dais. The next most senior Council Member shall be seated to the right of the City Manager, and thereafter the seating shall be arranged alternately between left and right until all seats are filled. Alphabetical selection using the last name shall be utilized in lieu of seniority when multiple Council Members are seated at the same time with the same seniority status.
- 8. Materials Submitted to City Council. The City Council acknowledges that parties appearing before the Aurora City Council frequently wish to provide materials to the City Council in support of a position or argument. However, the City Council is oftentimes

unable to assimilate the materials in the context of the decision-making process occurring at the City Council meeting. The City Council will accept and receive into the record the following materials up to and including the City Council meeting itself: A reasonable number of pictures, graphs, petitions (with signatures only), and written materials not to exceed one page per speaker. On the other hand, multiple page materials delivered later than twenty-four (24) hours before the commencement of the City Council meeting will not be considered without a vote to accept. In order to accept and receive into the record materials not delivered by the deadline, the City Council must, by majority vote of the quorum, authorize the ~~acceptance~~ of materials.

B. THE AGENDA – STUDY SESSIONS, REGULAR MEETINGS, AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

1. Final Agenda. The final agenda (without backup) will be distributed/transmitted to Council Members no later than the Thursday preceding the Monday of regular City Council meetings. Items may be deleted by their initiators prior to the formal adoption of the agenda during the Regular Meeting. No item shall be added after this date unless it has the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the entire membership of the City Council. If a vote is taken on any item added to the agenda that does not require legal publication, said item must be on the agenda for reaffirmation at the next regularly-scheduled City Council meeting. If legal publication is necessary, the item shall be brought back in accordance with the publication schedule.
2. Authority to Place Items on Agenda. Although items may be requested by other parties, Council Members, City Manager, City Attorney, Chief Public Defender, Presiding Judge, and Court Administrator are the only ones who have authority to place items on the Study Session and Regular/Special Meeting agendas. Each such item shall indicate the party requesting the item.
3. Reconsideration. If a motion, resolution or ordinance is passed or defeated by City Council action, it may be reconsidered at the same meeting, a special meeting, or at the next regular City Council meeting by motion from a member who was on the prevailing side. Reconsideration shall be granted only to consider new information and the motion to reconsider shall be made at the appropriate time when the agenda item “Reconsideration and Call-Ups” is under consideration. If the City Council authorizes reconsideration of an item which has previously been the subject of City Council deliberations, the City Council shall specify, as part of the motion, the scope of additional staff work-up and review prior to placement on the agenda. Discussion upon reconsideration shall be limited to the impact of the new information upon the item being considered by the City Council. Whenever a vote is taken to reconsider an item, the item to be reconsidered will return to the agenda for formal action at the next regular meeting unless the motion specifies a different time. Unless a contrary time limitation exists by reason of the Charter, ordinances or City procedures, an issue cannot be placed back on the agenda for six months unless sponsored by at least six (6) Council Members; provided, however, where such issue requires a super-majority vote of the City Council for approval, the issue cannot be placed back on the agenda unless sponsored by a super majority of the Council Members. If any substantive

changes are made to the motion, resolution or ordinance, then this will be considered to be a new issue and can be placed on the agenda by an appropriate sponsor prior to the expiration of the six (6) month period.

4. Reservation of Right to Reconsider. If City Council minutes are not distributed for consideration and approval at the next regularly-scheduled City Council meeting, the right of reconsideration, as set out in subsection B.3., above, will be reserved until the next meeting when the City Council minutes are available for review by City Council.
5. Right of Mayor to Vote. Pursuant to Charter Section 3-2, the Mayor shall not be entitled to cast a vote upon any resolution or ordinance or amendments thereto unless it is to create or break a tie vote. However, the Mayor is entitled to vote on motions including motions regarding parliamentary procedure concerning a resolution or ordinance.

C. SPECIAL ROLES

1. Mayor Pro-Tem. The Mayor Pro-Tem shall serve as Mayor in case of the absence of the Mayor. If both the Mayor and the Mayor Pro-tem are absent, the presiding officer shall be chosen from the remaining Council Members on the basis of seniority, calculated by the accumulation of the total years and months of Council Member service. In the event that two or more of the remaining Council Members should be of equal seniority, preference shall be given to an at-large member. If two or more of the Council Members of equal seniority are at-large members, the selection of the presiding officer shall be made by drawing lots. The Mayor Pro-Tem shall be elected from among the members of City Council at the first regular meeting of City Council in December. A Council Member who is interested in serving as Mayor Pro-Tem shall give written notification to the other Council Members on or before November 15 of each year. Among the duties of Mayor Pro-Tem is the duty to arrange location and other logistics for Council Workshops, including setting the agenda of the workshop, after asking for input from City Council. Another duty is to accept donations and make arrangements for special occasions that City Council wants to recognize (i.e., birthdays, deaths, etc.)
2. City Attorney. Any member of the City Council may at any time call upon the City Attorney for an oral or written opinion regarding any question of law.

D. CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

1. Formation and Selection. The City Council shall establish itself into the following standing Committees:
 - Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations
 - Parks, Foundations and Quality of Life
 - Housing, Neighborhood Services and Redevelopment
 - Management and Finance
 - Transportation, Airports and Public Works
 - Planning and Economic Development

- Public Relations/Communications, Tourism, Libraries, Boards and Commissions and Citizen Groups
- Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service
- Water

No later than the conclusion of the second regular council meeting in December, each Council Member shall submit to the Mayor Pro-Tem his or her top four (4) choices for Committee assignments. Council Members should put as their first choice the Committee they would like to Chair. Wherever possible, priorities of Council Members should be accommodated. Appointments of Council Members to Committees shall take place and become effective on January 1. Each Council Member other than the Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem shall serve on three (3) Committees. The Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem, and City Manager serve as ex-officio to each Committee. Ex-officio status shall not entitle that person to act as a chair or vote at a committee meeting. Committee Chairs shall serve for one year, concurrent with the term of the Committee. Current Committee Chairperson(s) may serve subject to re-appointment by the Mayor Pro-Tem for successive terms on the same Committee(s). The Mayor Pro-Tem shall have the final authority in making the official assignments, including Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of each Committee. However, after the Mayor Pro-Tem has issued Committee assignments, Council Members may exchange assignments through mutual agreement. Council Members should immediately notify the Mayor Pro-Tem and the City Manager of such exchanges. If it is necessary to fill a vacancy on City Council through an appointment, the new Council Member shall serve on the Committees which were assigned to the Council Member whom he or she replaced. The City Manager shall assign a staff member and a Recording Secretary to work with each Committee. A member of the City Attorney's office shall be assigned to each Committee. The City Council's representative to the Denver Regional Council of Governments and the Colorado Municipal League Board shall serve as ex-officio members of the Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations Committee if they are not already assigned to the Committee. They may take part in the deliberations but shall not be entitled to vote.

2. Ad Hoc Committees. Ad Hoc Committees may be formed and appointments shall be made at City Council Study Sessions or Workshops with the support of the majority of Council Members in attendance. The Mayor Pro-Tem shall chair any ad hoc committee formed for the purpose of amending the Rules of Order and Procedure for the City Council.
3. Protocol. Committees shall consider items and policy matters relevant to a Committee referred by the City Council as a whole, any Council Member, City Manager, City Attorney, Chief Public Defender, Presiding Judge, or Court Administrator. With the permission of the City Manager, a department director can sponsor an item. As a matter of general practice, proposed ordinances, resolutions or policy matters, other than those referred to executive session, shall be submitted to the appropriate Committee for its review and comment. If a Council Member submits a matter for consideration, and the Committee is thereafter unable to schedule the matter within 45 days, it shall be forwarded directly to a study session. A Committee meeting cannot be held unless a majority of Committee Members assigned to the Committee is present. A quorum of two (2) Members of City

Council may be established with one of such two Committee Members participating by audio or video conference call. The only exception to this requirement shall relate to the Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations Committee (FSIR) when, in the opinion of the Chair of the FSIR Committee, it is necessary to convene an emergency meeting in order to be able to respond in a timely fashion to state or federal legislative activity. Any Council Member may attend a Committee meeting and take part in the deliberations, but shall not be entitled to vote. Members of the public may attend a Committee meeting and may be permitted to address the Committee at the discretion of the Chair. Committees may not conduct executive sessions (see subsection D.7. for an exception). Committees shall not conduct public hearings unless authorization has been received in advance through a majority vote of the entire City Council at a study session. A “public hearing” shall be construed to be a meeting where public testimony, evidence, and input are actively encouraged through publicity prior to the hearing. A public hearing shall also be characterized by staff involvement in organizing and planning the hearing which will generally involve one subject/issue. It is the City Council’s intention that matters which clearly affect the City Council as a whole or a policy with city-wide application should be brought to the whole City Council at a study session rather than having the Committee render a final decision. Committees and their activities and recommendations will not and do not represent the City’s formal position which can only occur as a result of a decision(s) made in a study session or a Council meeting. The only exception is the legislative position recommendations made by the FSIR Committee. The recommendation sent forward from a Committee should represent the consensus of all Committee members present. Any dissenting Council Member may request that a minority report be submitted along with the recommendation of the group. If a Committee refers an item to a study session, the Committee should also determine if the item would be appropriate for review by a City board or commission or outside entity. Such review should take place prior to the study session. If an item is referred for review, the outcome of the review should be included in the Council packet provided for the study session.

4. Agenda. The staff, in conjunction with and final approval by the Committee Chair, shall develop an agenda for distribution/transmission to the Committee Members the Friday prior to the Committee meeting. The agenda shall contain, as a preface, the goals for the relevant policy committee. The agenda for every Committee shall conclude with a section entitled “Miscellaneous Matters for Consideration.” Important policy issues should not be discussed and resolved during the “Miscellaneous” portion of the Committee agenda since other Council Members will not have had prior notice of the subject matter. This portion of the Committee meeting should be reserved for interaction and input from staff. In the development of the agenda, staff should be sensitive to the time constraints placed upon Council Members who are attending various Committee meetings. The agenda shall include all of the background materials which relate to the agenda item. The agenda for all upcoming Committee meetings shall be posted on the City of Aurora website and contained in the City Manager’s weekly memorandum to all Council Members.
5. Consideration of Policy Matters. Each policy item should be assigned to only one Committee. When there is a question as to which Committee is the most appropriate, the Mayor Pro-Tem will consult with the Chairs of the Committees in question to determine

which Committee should review the item. Conducting joint meetings shall not be permitted unless approved by a majority vote of the entire City Council. A Committee Chair may elect to bypass a Committee on any item and have it submitted directly to City Council in a study session. The minutes of Committees should be utilized by Council Members to determine whether further review by the City Council as a whole is warranted. If such matter or issue is referred by the City Council as a whole to a particular Committee, the Committee must then refer the matter back to the City Council as a whole at the conclusion of Committee consideration. If a matter has been referred back to a Committee for further study, the Chair of that Committee shall endeavor in good faith to arrive at an accommodation. Whenever a policy matter is referred to a Committee at the request of a Council Member or Members, staff shall notify the Council Member(s) of the date and time of the Committee meeting.

6. City Representation upon Other Entities and Quasi-Governmental Agencies. The City of Aurora is entitled to have representation upon other entities and quasi-governmental agencies through the presence of one or more Council Members or other designees. For purposes of this section, other entities and quasi-governmental agencies shall be deemed to be the following:

- Accelerate Colorado
- Adams County Airport Coordinating Committee (ACC)
- Aerotropolis Regional Transportation Authority (ARTA)
- Aurora Economic Development Council (AEDC)
- Aurora Mental Health
- Centennial Airport Community Noise Roundtable
- Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority
- Colorado Air and Space Port
- Colorado Municipal League Policy Committee (CML)
- Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG)
- E-470 Public Highway Authority
- Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority (FRA)
- Highline Canal Working Group
- I-70 Regional Economic Advancement Partnership (REAP)
- Mile High Behavioral Health Care/Comitis
- Sand Creek Regional Greenway
- Sister Cities International
- Spirit of Aurora
- Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (Mayor Pro-Tem)

The Mayor shall appoint a representative(s) to the following ad-hoc and quasi-governmental agencies:

- Adams County Economic Development (ACED)
- Aurora Housing Authority
- Lowry Community Advisory Committee

- Lowry Denver/Aurora Coordinating Committee
- Lowry Redevelopment Authority
- Visit Aurora

Appointments as the City's representative to any outside entity or agency shall be accomplished by a majority vote of the entire City Council. The appointment may take place at the study session portion of the agenda. The City's representative to such entity or agency shall, at all times, pursue the best interests of the City with respect to any matter which comes before the entity or agency for decision, whether acting in his or her capacity as the City's representative or as a member of the entity's or agency's executive board or council. The representative shall not be required to obtain the advice and consent of the City Council prior to voting on any such matter. Nevertheless, the representative shall endeavor to report to the entire City Council items of significance to the interest(s) of the City whether prior to or after formal agency action. Expenses for Council Members to attend local dinners organized by nonprofit associations of local governments (e.g., Adams County Council of Governments (ADCOG), Colorado Municipal League (CML) and Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG)), or other local governing bodies (e.g., city councils and county commissions), or events where the Mayor is a featured speaker, will be covered by the City as a general expense. In addition, as part of the annual budget development process, the City Council shall allocate sufficient funds from the Council Contingency to cover only Council Members' expenses in attending civic organization events. Otherwise, where the primary purpose of the civic organization event is fundraising, Council's contingency funds shall not be used to cover Council Members' expenses to attend such an event. The City shall only purchase a City Council table at a civic organization event where there is a 60% commitment from Council Members to attend the event. If there is no such 60% commitment, a Council Member may utilize funds from his or her monthly stipend or travel and training budget to cover the expenses of attending a civic organization event. If the City has paid expenses to attend a civic organization event and seats are still available five business days prior to such event, the seats shall be available to Council Member guests or City staff on a first-come first-served basis. Otherwise, guests are welcome to attend all such events at their own expense. Any reasonable dues or donations that are required or expected for the Council Member's official representation as a member of another entity or quasi-governmental agency shall be covered or reimbursed by the City as a general expense.

7. Council Appointee Evaluation and Compensation Committee. In order to assure a comprehensive approach to Council Appointee evaluations and compensation decisions, a Council Committee on Evaluations and Compensation is established with the following duties and obligations. The Committee shall be composed of the Mayor, the Mayor Pro-Tem, and the Chair of the Management and Finance Committee. The Committee shall develop the necessary protocols to provide an effective system of evaluation of the performance of the Council Appointees. The Committee shall also be responsible for initially handling any complaints and/or discipline involving a Council Appointee and, for purposes of the City Council Anti-Harassment Policy set forth in Appendix G, any complaints and/or discipline involving a Council Member, for the purpose of making recommendations to the full City Council. The Committee shall conduct any relevant

research for purposes of determining compensation, benefits, and if applicable, severance package(s) utilizing data from other governmental agencies. The Committee shall be responsible for receiving input from the Council Appointees and providing feedback to the Appointee relative to performance issues on a timely basis in cooperation with the full City Council. After the full Council has made their decision concerning Appointee compensation and benefits for the ensuing year, the Committee shall schedule and hold a meeting with each Appointee to convey the decision and any other pertinent information within seven working days. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Council Rules of Order and Procedure, the Committee shall be entitled to go into executive session for the discussion of personnel matters involving the Appointees, so long as all applicable aspects of the State Open Meetings Law, C.R.S. Section 24-6-401, *et seq.* are followed. In the absence of the Mayor, or after a briefing with the Mayor, any member of the Committee shall be empowered to execute written authorizations to administrative staff reflecting official decisions of the City Council regarding Appointee performance reviewed in this subsection D.7. Council comments for Appointees are to be developed collaboratively. The Committee shall also be responsible for evaluating the need for and making recommendations concerning the level and nature of staff support for the Mayor and City Council so as to insure adequate levels of support for the City's elected officials.

E. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

1. Parliamentarian. The City Attorney shall serve as official Parliamentarian and advise the Mayor pertaining to parliamentary procedure, but a final ruling shall be made by the Mayor. The Mayor's ruling shall be final unless overturned by a successful appeal.
2. Guide of Procedures. The Mayor and City Attorney shall use as a guide for parliamentary procedures O. Garfield Jones, *Parliamentary Procedures at a Glance*, unless it is in conflict with City Council's Rules of Order and Procedure herein set forth, in which event these Rules shall prevail. The provisions of the Rules of Procedure, including the right to reconsider an item, may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.
3. Order of Business. Council meetings are to conduct business for the city. All citizens are encouraged to contact their Councilperson for matters outside the agenda. The business of all regularly-scheduled meetings of the City Council shall be conducted in the following order:
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Invocation/Moment of Silence
 - d. Pledge of Allegiance
 - e. Approval of Minutes
 - f. Proclamations or Ceremonies
 - g. Public Invited to be Heard
 - h. Adoption of Agenda
 - i. Consent Calendar
 - j. Resolutions

- k. Public Hearings With or Without Related Ordinances
 - l. Introduction of Ordinances
 - m. Finalizing of Ordinances
 - n. Planning Matters
 - o. Annexations
 - p. Reconsiderations and Call-Ups
 - q. General Business
 - r. Appointments to Boards and Commissions
 - s. Reports
 - i. Mayor
 - ii. City Council
 - t. Public invited to be Heard (non-agenda items)
 - u. Adjournment
4. Persons wishing to address Council at a public comment session shall sign up to do so with the City Clerk prior to the session on a first-come, first-served basis. Speakers shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes.
 5. Public Comment on Agenda Items. In addition to the public comment session on non-agenda items, persons may speak during any item scheduled for consideration on the regular meeting agenda. Persons wishing to address the City Council on any scheduled item shall sign up to do so with the City Clerk prior to the consideration of such item. Speakers shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes.
 6. Discussion Prior to Introduction. Any agenda item may be presented by staff and discussed prior to a formal motion and second, placing the item before City Council. If, however, an item requires a "public hearing," the hearing shall be opened before any discussion occurs concerning the substance/merits of the item.
 7. Use of Consent Calendar. Items eligible for consent calendar consideration will be limited to approval of general business items, including contracts, final plats approved by the planning commission, and ordinances on final reading which were introduced by a unanimous vote of those present on the first reading. Prior to the consideration of the Consent Calendar, the Mayor will ask if any speakers slips have been presented. If so, the Mayor may remove the item from the Consent Calendar and require that a separate vote be taken on the item. In addition, any Council Member may remove an item from the consent calendar for individual discussion and require that a separate vote be taken on the item. Otherwise, all items on the Consent Calendar may be taken under consideration and voted upon as a single item.
 8. Public Hearings. The following public hearing procedures have been adopted in an effort to expedite, accelerate and increase efficiency of meetings at which the public appears to speak on items of a quasi-judicial nature before the City Council, and to attempt to avoid unnecessary confusion, length and dissension at such meetings:

- a. The Mayor declares the public hearing open and outlines the general procedures under which the item will be considered.
 - b. Staff introduces the item, enters all exhibits into the hearing record, presents an analysis of the item, summarizes comments of referral agencies where applicable, and makes a recommendation for City Council action.
 - c. The Applicant presents the content of the item, including relevant written materials that are submitted in accordance with the requirements of Paragraph A.8. The Applicant's presentation shall be limited to 15 minutes, which time may be apportioned among multiple speakers as the Applicant so chooses.
 - d. Members of the public may speak, provided that they have submitted a speaker's slip to the City Clerk prior to the opening of the public hearing. Each speaker shall state his or her name and indicate whether he or she supports, opposes, or is neutral about the proposal. Presentations by members of the public shall be limited to three minutes.
 - e. After hearing all testimony, Council Members may ask questions of those individuals who have testified at the public hearing, including Staff and the Applicant. Both Staff and the Applicant will be given a full opportunity to respond to all questions raised by Council Members and members of the public.
 - f. After the question and answer period, the Mayor shall declare the public hearing closed.
 - g. After the public hearing is closed, the City Council will discuss the merits of the item. Following the discussion, the Council shall take such action on the item before them as may be permitted by law.
9. Nominations and Appointments to Boards and Commissions. Unless otherwise provided by Charter all boards and commissions shall be appointed by City Council. All members shall be subject to removal by Council at Council's pleasure and at any time without cause. Section 2-765 of the City Code has a summary list of all boards and commissions and has a reference to their enabling legislation so that appointment requirements, if any, other than the general rule are indexed and can be easily accessed.

Boards and commissions shall follow standard interview procedures established by the City Clerk unless a Charter or Code provision dictates otherwise. At a minimum each board or commission shall interview two applicants per vacancy so long as that number has applied. The minimum number of interviews may be waived if there are an insufficient number of qualified applicants at the time the vacancy is to be filled. City Council maintains full discretion to nominate and appoint whomever they desire, within the established parameters of the enabling legislation, to fill any vacancy.

Nominations and appointments by City Council at a Regular Session of City Council to boards and commissions shall be done according to the board/commission selection process for appointments and nominations found in Appendix F.

F. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, AMENDMENTS

1. Ordinances. An ordinance is the formal legislative document which establishes the law of the City and remains in effect until otherwise rescinded or amended by the City Council. The City Clerk shall read the title of the ordinance for consideration by City Council. Related ordinances may be acted upon as one item after the titles are read in series by the City Clerk.
2. Resolution. A resolution may be used for a statement of policy or other matters which are not required to be adopted by ordinance.
3. Amendment. Whenever possible, Council Members are encouraged to prepare and distribute any proposed amendments to ordinances and resolutions at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at which such ordinance or resolution is being considered. Occasionally, an informal procedure may be followed whereby the proponent of a motion may accept, with the consent of the seconder, amendments to the motion without submitting the same to a vote.
4. Motions. Motions are the mechanism by which items are brought before City Council for its consideration or action thereon. A motion to defer or to table an item shall be debatable.
5. Voting; Conflicts of Interest. Every Council Member present at a City Council meeting must vote on every item before City Council unless it would constitute a conflict of interest. A Council Member may abstain from a vote on the approval of the minutes if the Council Member was not present at the prior meeting. A Council Member who has a personal or financial interest, as otherwise defined in these rules, the City Charter, the City Code and the City's Standards for Conduct, in any matter proposed or pending before the City Council shall disclose the fact to the members of City Council and shall not vote thereon, and shall refrain from attempting to influence the decisions of the other Members of the governing body in voting on the matter. Council Members may consult with the City Attorney to obtain an advisory opinion prior to any such vote. If a Council Member chooses to vote and utilize the notification to the Secretary of State provision found in state law and City Resolution, the Council Member shall notify the Secretary of State pursuant to state law and notify the Mayor and other members of City Council prior to the commencement of the City Council meeting.
 - a. Rule Statement. This City Council conflict of interest rule is designed to provide a procedure and identify potential conflicts of interests in decisions made by the City Council. Since it is not possible to write a rule that covers all potential conflicts, the members of City Council are expected to be alert for and avoid situations that might be construed as conflicts of interests.

b. Definitions.

“Financial interest” shall be defined as including, but not limited to, a financial interest held by a council member which is: (i) an ownership or creditor interest in a business; (ii) employment or prospective employment with a business; (iii) an ownership interest in real or personal property; or (iv) a director, officer or other prominent position in a business or organization.

“Personal interest” shall be defined as an interest in either the subject matter or project before the City Council. It is a personal bias or prejudice which imperils the open-mindedness and sense of fairness which a Council Member is expected to possess.

“Personal or financial interest” shall include the personal or financial interests of spouses, children, and anyone permanently residing in the same residence as a Council Member.

c. Violations of the Conflict of Interest Rule. If the City Council has reasonable cause to believe an interested person has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, the City Attorney shall inform the interested person, provide an opportunity for explanation and investigate further, if necessary. The City Council may take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action against any interested person in violation of the conflict of interest rule as outlined in the conduct guidelines in Appendix E.

6. Tie Votes. If any matter is defeated by reason of a tie vote, it shall be rescheduled for action at the next regularly-scheduled City Council meeting unless a motion to reschedule it to a different time is adopted. If the subsequent consideration again results in a tie vote, the item shall be considered defeated and the item shall only be considered again in conformance with the provisions of subsection B.3 of these Rules.

7. Sixth Vote. If, due to the absence of one or more Council Members at any regular or special meeting of the City Council, the final passage of any ordinance supported by the majority of Council Members then present fails for lack of a sixth vote, such ordinance shall be rescheduled for action at the next regularly-scheduled City Council meeting.

G. CITY-SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT AND EXPENSES FOR OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

1. Equipment. The City shall provide the following equipment to members of the City Council - everything else is to be paid for from the stipend:

- Complete computer set-up (including software, modem, monitor, and printer/fax; additional equipment or accessories may be provided as technology warrants)
- iPad or equivalent
- File cabinet
- Name tags (as required)

- Stationary products (including paper, envelopes, business cards, labels file folders etc.)
- Information technology department support for equipment used for official city business

2. Expenses. The City shall provide a monthly stipend to members of the City Council for the following services:

- Portable voice and data services for portable devices and for the home
- High-speed internet
- Phone line for fax
- Other incidental elected official-related expenses

Council members shall receive a monthly automobile expenses allowance, the amount to be established by the Finance Director, which shall fund anticipated monthly vehicle related expenditures including insurance, fuel, parking and maintenance.

3. Community Meetings. In order to hold Ward or community meetings, City Council shall be provided up to \$400 per calendar year for Ward Council Members and \$200 per calendar year for At-Large Council Members for reimbursement of expenses associated with the holding of the meeting. The cornerstone of successful representative government is the ability of an elected official to effectively communicate with their constituency. The City will provide for printing and mailing costs of constituency education. In order to conserve limited resources, the maximum mailing support service shall be one time per month with a maximum number of 2,400 pieces per year and with any item costing in excess of regular first class postage counting double. Annual printing support shall be limited to 3,600 pieces. Council Members shall be provided with a proof prior to any printing or mailing. The City will provide staff support and resources to Council Members wanting to distribute newsletters on a monthly basis. To ensure adherence to state laws and city ordinances, a legal review of content shall occur within three business days of city staff receiving the newsletter from a Council Member. Any publications/postage supported by any City funds shall not urge voters to support or vote in favor or against any ballot issue or candidate.

H. LISTING OF APPENDICES.

1. Appendix A: City Council Policy Committees
2. Appendix B: Council Committee Meeting Minutes and Notes
3. Appendix C: Conference and Council Workshop Guidelines
4. Appendix D: Public Acknowledgements
5. Appendix E: Conduct Guidelines
6. Appendix F: Boards/Commission Selection Process Appointments and Nominations
7. Appendix G: City Council Anti-Harassment Policy

CITY COUNCIL POLICY COMMITTEES

The following guidelines should be utilized in determining the subject matter assigned to each Council Policy Committee. In addition to the topics listed, all improvements, facilities or equipment to be financed should be brought forward to the committee assigned to the division or department. These are to be considered guidelines only. Issues and programs may be considered by or referred to Committees based on the overall best interest of the Council policy process by mutual agreement of the Committee Chairs and the City Manager.

A. Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations Committee (FSIR)

The Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the following areas:

1. Liaisons
 - a. Colorado Municipal League
 - b. National Organization to Insure a Sound-Controlled Environment (NOISE)
 - c. Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG)
 - d. Adams County Council of Governments (ADCOG)
 - e. Arapahoe County Council of Governments
 - f. Metro Mayors Caucus
 - g. Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)
 - h. Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority
 - i. National League of Cities
2. State Legislature
3. Ballot issue resolutions
4. Federal matters (grants, legislative lobbying strategies, etc.)
5. Collaboration with the Aurora Public School and Cherry Creek School Districts, Community College of Aurora (CCA) and other educational institutions on issues which improve efficiency as well as educational outcomes
6. Aurora Sister Cities International

B. Parks, Foundations and Quality of Life Committee

The Parks, Foundations, and Quality of Life Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the following areas:

1. Partnerships with the non-profit community, task force and other jurisdictions concerning healthy community initiatives and housing needs.
2. Spirit of Aurora
3. Parks, Recreation and Open Space
4. Golf Enterprise
5. New regional and community park plans
6. Major parks capital improvements
7. Annual reports from the following boards and commissions:

- a. Golf Course Advisory Committee
- b. Open Space Board
- c. Parks & Recreation Board

C. Housing, Neighborhood Services and Redevelopment Committee

The Housing, Neighborhood Services and Redevelopment Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the following areas:

- 1. Neighborhood stability and code enforcement
 - a. City housing and animal codes
 - b. Policies and procedures of code enforcement
- 2. Incentives for redevelopment
- 3. Urban renewal projects
 - a. Redevelopment policies
 - b. Economic development and business/Chamber groups (urban renewal)
- 4. Community housing needs
 - a. Community development programs (including housing counseling and homelessness prevention programs)
 - b. Programs to address the foreclosure issue (including vacant property registration and the Neighborhood Stabilization Program)
- 5. Programs to strengthen and enhance neighborhood organizations and address neighborhood and business community issues including:
 - a. Neighborhood liaison programs, including the Neighborhood Fence Replacement Program
 - b. Graffiti
 - c. Citizens' Code Enforcement Academy
 - d. Learn about Aurora, Neighbor to Neighbor roundtables, and the Neighborhood Referral Program
- 6. Annual reports from the following boards and commissions:
 - a. Aurora Housing Authority
 - b. Building Code, Contractors Appeals & Standards Board
 - c. Citizens Advisory Committee for Housing & Community Development

D. Management and Finance Committee

The Management and Finance Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the following areas:

- 1. Financial Matters including:
 - a. Budget
 - b. Long-term financial planning/strategies
 - c. Debt policy and management
 - d. Investment policy and management
 - e. Serve as Council's Audit Committee, including review of audits
 - f. Internal controls
 - g. Pensions

- h. Purchasing and contracting
- 2. Human Resources matters including:
 - a. Personnel rules and regulations
 - b. Risk management
- 3. Information Technology and general automation matters including:
 - a. E-government policy/strategy and associated services to citizens (where not operationally specific)
 - b. Automation improvements for efficiency and effectiveness
- 4. City Clerk operations, including:
 - a. Election processes
 - b. Redistricting
 - c. Council Rules and Procedures
 - d. Document storage and retention policies
- 5. Annual reports from the following boards and commissions:
 - a. Career Service Commission
 - b. Citizens' Advisory Budget Committee
 - c. Election Commission
 - d. General Employees Retirement Board

E. Transportation Airports and Public Works Committee

The Transportation, Airports and Public Works Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the following areas:

- 1. Transportation
 - a. Regional Transportation District (RTD) FasTracks – I-225 light rail transit (LRT) and east corridor commuter rail
 - b. CDOT – I-225 widening, I-225/Colfax/17th Place interchange, I-70
 - c. E-470 Public Highway Authority
 - d. CDOT
 - e. Denver regional council of governments (DRCOG)
 - f. Aerotropolis Regional Transit Authority
- 2. Airports
 - a. Denver International Airport (DIA)
 - b. Centennial Airport
 - c. Colorado Air and Space Port
 - d. Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) airport noise
- 3. Public Works
 - a. Street overlays
 - b. Annual snow removal plan
 - c. Major capital improvements
 - d. Street conditions/maintenance

F. Planning and Economic Development Committee

The Planning and Economic Development Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the following areas:

1. City/development task force
2. Comprehensive plan
3. Annexations
4. Land use
5. Growth and development policies
6. Working with economic development and business/Chamber groups (primary)
7. Incentives for economic development
8. Creating a climate for positive business development
9. Job creation and retention
10. Agreements with Xcel, Comcast, Qwest (excluding franchises)
11. Development regulations
12. Environment, energy and sustainability
13. Retail and small business development
14. Oil and gas regulations
15. Environmental sustainability
16. City building codes
17. City zoning (Includes noise, after-hours uses and sign regulations)
18. Annual reports from the following boards and commissions:
 - a. Board of Adjustment & Appeals
 - b. Business Advisory Board
 - c. Oil and Gas Advisory Committee
 - d. Planning & Zoning Commission

G. Public Relations/Communications, Tourism, Libraries, Boards and Commissions and Citizen Groups Committee

The Public Relations/Communications, Tourism, Libraries, Boards and Commissions and Citizen Groups Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the following areas:

1. External community relations
2. Communications
3. Libraries and cultural services
4. Special and/or cultural events and venues
5. Visit Aurora
6. Citizen groups
7. Annual reports from the following boards and commissions:
 - a. Art in Public Places Commission
 - b. Aurora Commission for Seniors
 - c. Aurora Fox Arts Center Board
 - d. Aurora Youth Commission
 - e. Cultural Affairs Commission
 - f. Historic Preservation Commission
 - g. Human Relations Commission
 - h. Immigrant and Refugee Commission
 - i. Library Board
 - j. Veterans Affairs Commission

8. Buckley Air Force Base

H. Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service Committee

The Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the following areas:

1. Traffic ordinances
2. Courts
3. Police
4. Fire
5. Jail
6. Homeland security
7. Department of Justice (DOJ) investigation
8. Office of Emergency Management
9. Public Safety Communications
10. Surcharges and NEXUS funding
11. Annual reports from the following boards and commissions:
 - a. Civil Service Commission
 - b. Independent Review Board
 - c. Judicial Performance Commission
 - d. Public Defender Commission

I. Water Committee

The Water Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the following areas:

1. Water demand/supply determinations
 - a. Protection of existing water rights portfolio
 - b. Development of integrated resource plan
 - c. Monthly supply tracking
2. Water/Wastewater compliance requirements
 - a. Compliance with Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act
 - b. Compliance with Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Wild and Scenic Act, etc.
 - c. Compliance with state, county and local permitting requirements
3. Water conservation programs
4. Capital project construction/operation
 - a. Storage
 - b. Pumping and conveyance
 - c. Treatment
5. Development of rates and fees
6. Storm Water
 - a. Compliance with state and federal permits
 - b. Storm water rates and charges
7. Annual reports from the following boards and commissions:
 - a. Citizens Water Advisory Committee

b. Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation District Board (City’s representatives)

If there is a question about the appropriate Committee for a given item, the following chart provides general guidance. In the event of a conflict, the Mayor Pro-Tem shall consult with the relevant Committee Chairs to make the final determination on Committee jurisdiction.

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM	COMMITTEE
Aid to Agencies With a Nexus to Law Enforcement	Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service
Aurora Water	Water
Boards and Commissions	Public Relations/Communications, Tourism, Libraries, Boards and Commissions and Citizen Groups
City Attorney	Management and Finance
City Council	Management and Finance
Civil Service Commission	Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service
Communications	Public Relations/Communications, Tourism, Libraries, Boards and Commissions and Citizen Groups
Court Administration	Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service
Finance	Management and Finance
Fire	Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service
Fleet and Purchasing	Management and Finance
Facilities Management	Transportation, Airports and Public Works
General Management	Management and Finance
Human Resources	Management and Finance
Information Technology	Management and Finance
Judicial	Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service
Library and Cultural Services	Public Relations/Communications, Tourism, Libraries, Boards and Commissions and Citizen Groups
Neighborhood Services	Housing, Neighborhood Services and Redevelopment
Parks, Recreation and Open Space	Parks, Foundations and Quality Of Life
Planning and Development Services	Planning and Economic Development
Police	Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service
Public Defender	Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service

Public Safety Communications Center	Public Safety, Courts and Civil Service
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COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES AND NOTES

A. Format of Minutes.

- Times New Roman 12-point type is the standard font.
- Topics should be all caps and bold with a divider line above each topic.
- Attendance of committee members should be shown at the beginning with a “members present” line.
- Attendance of key staff and visitors should be shown in a separate line “others present.” This line includes any non-member council members (first in this list).

B. Structure and Content of Minutes Regarding Individual Topics.

1. Headings. Each discussion topic header should be capitalized and preceded by a double line or other marker to indicate the change of subject. The approval of minutes from the previous meeting should not be identified as a topic. Each discussion topic is summarized into one of three sub-headings:

- Summary of Issue and Discussion,
- Outcome, and
- Follow-up Action.

The minutes should be page-numbered and have a header line that identifies the name of the committee, the date of the meeting and whether the minutes are “Draft – Subject to Approval” or “Final.”

2. Summary of Issue and Discussion. The main subject and key elements of the discussion are to be identified in this section. However, the section should be kept as short as possible; brevity will help the reader to identify the issues and key elements more quickly. The focus is on a summary of the material presented in writing or verbally and the issues raised by questioning. Presenters may be quoted when there are key points. Individual Council Members are not normally quoted unless policy issues are being discussed (see additional discussion on this topic later in this section). The key presentation items can often be paraphrased from hard copy documentation backup that is provided since that is typically what the presenter goes over. Ancillary questions and answers that are not closely related to the topic or issue being discussed should not be included in the minutes. In general, questions and responses should be rephrased when appropriate for both brevity and clarity. The minutes should include only those discussions that a reader would find directly relevant to the issues and questions that Council is being asked to resolve. An exception is when a new item is raised during the discussion where Council Members wish to suggest a direction to staff or provide information to the full Council. Such discussion needs to be reported in the minutes. The basis for the Committee’s recommendations should be apparent from this section; however, no explanation is needed for non-controversial items where the Committee had no significant comments. This section is usually one to four relatively short paragraphs.

When a topic is controversial, this section may be expanded and individual Council Members' questions and positions may be identified. This allows the reader (including other Council Members and staff) to see what positions or issues individual Council Members have. Expanding this section of the minutes is a subjective decision and will typically be made by the staff person assigned to the Committee.

3. Outcome. This should only be a sentence or two long. It briefly reports the Committee's decisions or recommendations. Typical wording is: "The Committee recommended the changes to [the subject matter] and forwarded the matter [or ordinance or resolution] to Study Session for consideration." Any other recommendation, direction or comment that the Committee wishes to forward to Council should also be included here. However, the rationale for the Committee's recommendation should always be reported in the Summary of Issue and Discussion.
 4. Follow-Up Action. This is usually a one-sentence description of the follow-up that staff should take and the expected timeframe for that action. Often, the typical wording would be: "Staff will submit the ordinance [or resolution] to Study Session by [estimated timeframe]."
- C. Timing. Draft minutes should be prepared as soon as practical after the Committee meeting has been held. If an item discussed at Committee needs to be forwarded to Council in the near future, the item should be prepared separately and reviewed so that the minutes can be attached to the appropriate Council packet.
- D. Review of Preliminary Draft. Prior to release of the draft minutes, the preliminary draft of each discussion topic should be reviewed by the Committee Chair for accuracy.
- E. Attachment to Council Commentary. When minutes of a Committee meeting are required to be attached to a Council Commentary, the minutes custodian should attempt to provide only that section of minutes appropriate to the Council Commentary subject by temporarily inserting page breaks before and after the appropriate topic and denoting the section of the minutes pertaining to that category. The Committee, the date of the Committee meeting, and whether final or subject to approval minutes should all be part of the minutes header so when the temporary page breaks are inserted, the date and status of the minutes is still printed and identified without additional effort.
- F. Circulation of Committee Minutes. The draft minutes should be circulated to the Committee members, Deputy City Manager and staff of the Committee. The draft minute document should have a header line that says: "Draft – Subject to Approval." The draft minutes (which have previously been reviewed by the primary presenters) may be released for purposes of providing required attachment of minutes to appropriate Council Commentaries. Within two weeks of the policy committee meetings, draft minutes should also be distributed/transmitted to all Council Members in the City Manager's weekly memorandum to Council Members prior to their final approval by the Committee. After final approval at the next Committee meeting, the header on the draft-minute document should be changed to "Final." Final minutes should be included in the Council packets, when practicable, as the item moves forward to the City Council and maintained as part of the record for the meeting.

G. Follow-up Re: Assignments. The staff to the committee is responsible for distributing an assignments “follow-up” memo to ensure that the follow-up is timely handled.

H. Recording. A CD, digital recording, or tape of the proceeding should be made. The primary purpose of the recording is to assist the recording secretary preparing the written minutes.

I. Retention. Copies of the final minutes, Committee packets and recordings of the Committee meetings should be sent to the City Clerk’s office for retention in accordance with the City’s retention schedule.

CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL WORKSHOP GUIDELINESCONFERENCES

A. Attendance. City Council encourages the attendance of Council Members and the Mayor at conferences which will serve to enhance directly their knowledge and ability to carry out their responsibilities in governing the City.

B. Expenses Eligible for Reimbursement. Council Members and the Mayor may be reimbursed for the following expenses incurred in attending conferences:

1. Travel. Actual economy class air to destinations outside the State of Colorado, including baggage fees for one standard item and travel insurance, and land travel costs, including taxis, buses and associated tips. Upgrade from economy class air travel for medical conditions or unusual circumstances may be considered and approved by City Council prior to travel.
2. Registration. Actual conference fees excluding optional entertainment events.
3. Lodging. Actual lodging costs, including taxes and associated mandatory assessments, may include lodging costs for the night before and the night of the last day of the conference, and any additional period of time necessary to ensure lower travel costs, provided that such costs are less than the travel costs. Weather or other emergency may extend the period of time eligible for reimbursement.
4. Meals and Incidentals. Council Members and the Mayor may select either of the following methods of reimbursement for the costs of meals and incidentals:
 - a. Receipts. Council Members and the Mayor may be reimbursed for reasonable actual costs of meals and incidentals, subject to the submission of a Travel Expense Report which, for meal, should identify persons in attendance and business purpose and include receipts detailing all items purchased.

Expenses for meals of non-city employees related to City business are reimbursed at actual cost provided that the reimbursement of such expenses is disclosed to the City Council.

- b. No Receipts. The per diem allowance may be used to cover the cost of meals and incidentals on overnight travel. Receipts are not required to support per diem expenditures. Incidentals include meal-related and miscellaneous tips (e.g. baggage handlers, bell hops and housekeeping). The maximum per diem rates for reimbursement of expenses incurred during official travel are established by the United States General Services Administration (GSA) and are based on the fiscal year of October 1 through September 30.

The per diem is reduced under the following circumstances:

- i. When meals have been purchased by the City as part of the registration fee; or
- ii. When meals have been purchased in relation to the conduct of City business, subject to the submission of a Travel Expense Report including persons in attendance, business purpose and receipts detailing all items purchased.

The reduction should be computed on the Travel Authorization/Expense Report and will equal the per diem rate for the applicable location multiplied by the percentage indicated below. The meal percent reduction is as follows:

MEAL	PERCENT REDUCTION
Breakfast	22%
Lunch	25%
Dinner	53%

5. Miscellaneous. Other travel-related expenses may be reimbursed if requested. Receipts are required for expenses equal to or greater than \$25.00 each. Reimbursable travel-related expenses include:

- a. Rental car costs (including insurance and fuel) upon arrival at a meeting/conference site outside the State of Colorado;
- b. Parking fees;
- c. Any other expenses necessary for the conduct of City business; and
- d. Use of a personal automobile for (i) out-of-state meeting/conference travel or (ii) in-state travel to the Colorado Municipal League (CML) annual conference. Such use of a personal vehicle may be reimbursed at the actual cost of the use of the personal automobile or at the standard mileage reimbursement rate. For out-of-state meeting/conference travel, mileage shall be calculated from the Colorado state border to the destination. For travel to the CML annual conference, mileage shall be calculated from the border of the nine-county membership area of DRCOG (i.e., the counties of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Clear Creek, Douglas, Gilpin, and Jefferson, and the cities and counties of Broomfield and Denver) to the destination.

C. Expenses Not Eligible for Reimbursement. Council Members and the Mayor may not be reimbursed for:

1. Except as otherwise provided by Paragraph B.5.d. above, any expenses incurred in the use of a personal automobile for in-state meeting/conference travel.
2. Alcoholic beverages, including those purchased as part of a meal.

D. Attendance of Guests. City funds shall not be used to pay any expenses incurred by a spouse or guest of a Council Member or the Mayor in attending any conference except where the conference is deemed to be a special occasion for the Council Member or the Mayor, and the reimbursement of such expenses is approved in advance by the City Council.

E. Travel Authorization/Expense Reports. Council Members and the Mayor, with the assistance of the Mayor/City Council staff, should complete Travel Authorization/Expense Reports no later than ninety (90) days after returning from the meeting/conference. Such reports should include all required receipts as provided in this Appendix C. Reimbursement for travel authorization/expense reports submitted with all required receipts and other documentation before the close of business on a Wednesday can be expected within ten (10) business days.

F. Reimbursement of the City. If the completed Travel Authorization/Expense Report indicates an amount due, Council Members and the Mayor should reimburse the City in a timely manner.

G. Use of City Purchasing Card. The City purchasing card may only be used to pay for travel/meeting/conference expenses. All such expenses shall be shown as having been prepaid by the City on the Travel Authorization/Expense Report. Copies of all related receipts shall be attached to the Travel Authorization/Expense Report.

H. Travel Advances. Advances may be requested for expenses for travel, conference registration, lodging and the amount of the per diem to be spent during the trip, or Council Members and the Mayor may use personal funds and request reimbursement. Any request for an advance shall include all required receipts and other documentation. Requests for a travel advance submitted with all required receipts and other documentation before the close of business on a Wednesday can be expected to be processed within ten (10) business days.

I. Budgeting. Each year, as part of the budget development process, the City Manager shall allocate \$7,000 to each Council Member and \$11,000 to the Mayor annually, or such other amount as may be determined by the City Council as the budget allows, for attendance at meetings/conferences. Such meetings/conferences must be relevant to issues facing local government. In addition, Council Members that serve on the National League of Cities Policy Steering Committee shall receive an additional allowance to cover expenses for attendance at one Policy Steering Committee meeting per year. It is not permissible to utilize travel and training moneys for attendance at fund raising events sponsored by other organizations.

Any costs for attendance at meetings/conferences that exceed the dollar limits listed in this paragraph (I) shall be the responsibility of each Council Member and the Mayor with reimbursement of city-paid cost to be made by January 31 following the year of City payment unless otherwise approved by the City Council.

Individual reporting of year-to-date travel expenditures shall be provided on no less than a quarterly basis to each Council Member and the Mayor by the Mayor/Council staff.

J. Use of Unexpended Funds. In the event that Council Members or the Mayor do not use their annual allocation, the total unused amount can either be carried over to the next year, only for use by the Council Member or the Mayor who individually carried forward the unused allocation, or returned to the General Fund, subject to appropriation in the ensuing fiscal year. It is impermissible for a Council Member to transfer, loan or otherwise provide funds as between one Council Member's account and another Council Member's account. At the time a Council Member is no longer holding their office, any remaining funds shall escheat to the City General Fund.

K. Reporting. Within a timely manner following attendance at a meeting/conference, Council Members and the Mayor are encouraged to present an oral report on the meeting/conference at Council Study Session or Council Committee meeting, whichever is appropriate. For any meeting/conference with multiple attendees, a single Council Member or the Mayor may present such report on behalf of the other attendees.

Council Members and the Mayor shall report appointment to any intergovernmental groups within a timely manner at Council Study Session and may seek approval by the City Council to serve as the City's official representative. Such approval shall be recorded in the list of Council Intergovernmental Appointments. The list of Council Intergovernmental Appointments shall be updated as changes occur and shall be reviewed annually by the City Council.

L. Review: This policy will be automatically reviewed every two years by the Management and Finance Policy Committee with a recommendation to the full City Council in Study Session.

COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

A. Frequency. In general, Council workshops shall be held three times each year, typically in February, May, and September.

B. Location. Unless modified by Council, two of the workshops shall be held within the City limits of Aurora. With respect to the out-of-town workshop, Council shall endeavor to coordinate the timing and location so as to facilitate interaction with individuals and agencies who are knowledgeable with current issue(s) of importance to the City.

C. Format. Prior to the holding of the workshop(s), Council shall at a study session consider and set the format/protocol of the workshop(s).

D. Open Meetings In keeping with the City Council's policy of conducting its meetings in an open forum, the time and place of Council workshops shall be made public with notification given, and the press shall be invited to attend all sessions, except those executive sessions which are exempt under state law.

PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TYPES OF PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A. Proclamations.

1. Purpose. A Proclamation is a document signed by the Mayor, which proclaims a special event, or recognition of a person or group, usually for a specific time period. Requests are generally received from clubs, organizations, non-profit groups and individuals (internally, locally, statewide and nationwide).
2. Process. Requests are received in the mail, in person and over the phone. Such requests must be accompanied by a Request for Proclamation form. Requests are to be submitted to the Mayor Pro-Tem. The Mayor Pro-Tem will notify, and take comment from, the Council on pending Proclamation requests. The Mayor Pro-Tem will coordinate such requests with the Mayor who will have final approval over Requests for Proclamations. The Mayor Pro-Tem will then report back to Council on the actions taken on proclamation requests. Requests for Proclamations should be acted upon within four weeks from the date of such request.
3. Pick-up/Mail the Proclamation. After approval and completion of the Proclamation document by the Mayor's office, the organization will be contacted by the Council's Management Analyst to arrange for either pick up or mailing to a representative.
4. Presentation prior to a Council Meeting (Pre-record). The Mayor's office will give the original Proclamation (along with the completed Request for Proclamation form) to the Assistant City Manager. The Assistant City Manager will contact the group and inform them of the date and time of the pre-record for presentation of their proclamation, and will also get the name(s) of the person(s) who will be present to receive the proclamation.
5. Presentation during Council Meeting. The Assistant City Manager will contact the requesting group and confirm a Council meeting date for the presentation. The completed Proclamation document will be given to the Assistant City Manager for the presentation at the Council meeting.

B. Ballot Issue Resolutions. A ballot issue resolution either supports or opposes a ballot issue having a direct impact on the City of Aurora or an associated organization. A ballot issue resolution shall first be presented at a study session for a determination whether the resolution has the unanimous support of Council, which shall be a requirement to the passage of any such resolution.

C. Letters from the City Council. Letters on behalf of the City Council shall be presented at a study session, and approved by a majority of the entire Council (six members) prior to the distribution of the letter. The Mayor on behalf of the Council shall sign such letter unless otherwise directed by a majority vote.

D. Amazing Aurorans. The Amazing Auroran award is presented to citizens for their personal effort in helping make our community a better place to work and live. Each Council Member may present two awards per quarter. The quarters are established as January-March, April-June, July-September and October-December. Award preparation and distribution will be coordinated with the Council support staff.

CONDUCT GUIDELINES

The following items relate to City Council activity and in some cases, City Council – City staff interactions. These guidelines possess the authority of law in the sense that they derive directly from either State statutes or City Charter and Code provisions and City Resolutions; therefore, they are important principles. These guidelines are aspirational in nature; however, the censure of a member of Council by the City Council, acting as a body politic, could occur where a transgression was found to be intentional or reckless. Any potential discipline by the Council can be either mitigated or eliminated by consultation with the City Attorney’s Office in cases where the conduct comports with the advice provided by the City Attorney’s Office.

A. Treatment of City Staff and the General Public. When interacting with City employees or members of the general public, individual Council Members shall conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.

B. Treatment of City E-mails. The efficient governance of the City is predicated upon the unfettered ability to communicate among and between City Council and City staff. Much of this communication occurs via the utilization of e-mail. The sharing of City-related e-mail(s) with anyone other than City officers and employees should be carefully considered. For example, a staff-generated e-mail may represent work in progress and/or not a final determination of City management's official position. Any doubt regarding the public dissemination and propriety and sensitivity of a particular e-mail should be discussed with the City Manager's Office prior to disclosure. This provision shall not apply to requests for information from City staff that are contained within the “Council Request” format. Any correspondence, including e-mails, between the City Council and the City Attorney’s Office may not be shared without preauthorization by the City Attorney.

C. Use of City-Supplied Computers/Laptops at a Place of Residence or Business. City-supplied computers, laptops, and iPads together with a printer and file cabinet are provided from public funds. Technical support is also provided by City staff. City Council acknowledges that these computers, laptops and iPads, and the data contained therein, may not be assumed to be confidential. Extreme care should be taken in the subject matter of data, either from an output or input perspective from these computers, laptops or iPads. There exists a potential for significant embarrassment to both the individual Council Member and the City Government as a whole, should misuse of these devices occur. Whenever an elected official leaves office, he or she may ask for an evaluation of the market price for any City-supplied equipment for the purpose of purchasing such equipment.

D. Council Letterhead. Council Members should never use their individualized letterhead for a purpose where it could be perceived that preferential treatment is being solicited as a result of having the status of an elected official. The use of City letterhead can be misinterpreted by others as constituting an explicit or implicit endorsement by the City of Aurora. The use of City letterhead is an area where input by the City Attorney’s Office may be especially valuable.

As opposed to the use of letterhead denominating individual Council Members, a generic letterhead denominating the Mayor and City Council is also available. The use of this type of letterhead must not occur unless the Mayor has been notified of its intended use. If the Mayor disapproves of the use of this letterhead, a study session discussion must occur to determine whether its use is appropriate.

When a Council Member writes on City stationary, the communication needs to clearly state that the letter is being sent representing only that specific Council Member and does not represent the Council's opinion.

E. Utilization of City Staff. The City Charter clearly and unequivocally directs that no "orders" shall ever be given by a member of the City Council to any City employee other than through the Office of the City Manager. Council requests shall be limited to requests that comport with budgeted activities and projects. While it is common for individual Council Members to interact with City employees, there is the potential for such interaction to be characterized as an "impermissible order" regardless of the motivation or intent of the Council Member. Interaction with a rank and file City employee gives rise to a greater possibility that an order was transmitted to the employee by the Council Member, therefore violating the Charter provision.

In order to ameliorate any claims of improper activity, individual Council Members must use the established Council Request System administered by the staff of the Office of Mayor and City Council and the City Manager's Office. The City Manager or his/her designees shall be responsible for reviewing all Council requests in order to identify those requests which could constitute an impermissible order or direction of City staff or questionable expenditure of city funds. Examples of appropriate Council requests processed through the City Manager's Office would be: a request to investigate a Code infraction; a request to repair a pothole; a request to weed a park, etc. Requests which would not be appropriate Council requests would be: a request that a specific employee handle a call or situation; a request that a person or organization be allowed to violate City laws or policies; a request for a department to handle a complaint or situation in a non-standard way or within an accelerated time; etc. Council will not ask staff to intervene in or work on any issues where the Aurora City Government is not a direct participant.

Final determination of utilization of City staff on both specific Council requests and day-to-day processes shall be the decision of the City Manager or the applicable Council Appointee. City staff shall be given up to three (3) business days within which to respond to specific Council requests. In those instances where a Council Member wishes to meet directly with one or more City employees below the level of department director, such requests shall be coordinated through the City Manager's Office. In those instances where a Council Member wishes to meet or otherwise correspond directly with a Department Director, the City Manager and appropriate Deputy City Manager shall be notified of such meeting or copied on such correspondence. Contact with the administrative support in the Mayor and City Council Office shall not be subject to the protocol requirements of this section.

F. Public Communication. Council Members retain all their rights to freedom of speech granted them under the Federal Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Nevertheless, when a Council Member speaks to a member of the public, the Council Member should be careful to emphasize

the fact that the Council Member is expressing his or her own views, unless the City Council has formally, as a body, adopted a position on the issue being discussed.

G. Council Committee Chair – Committee Agendas. In order to ensure that Council committee meetings are run efficiently and effectively, the Chair of the committee must be given the authority to strictly control the agenda for a particular meeting. This has two advantages: (i) City staff will be prepared to make effective presentations; and, (ii) the other Council Members on the committee will be informed in advance of the subject matter for the meeting. This will allow Council Members an opportunity to raise important questions or make suggestions during the committee meeting. Under no circumstances shall an item be removed or added by a non-chair committee member or City staff without the express approval of the Chair. If a request is made with more than two weeks' notice before the committee meeting date, then the Chair may allow the item on the agenda. If a request to add an agenda item is made with less than two weeks' notice, at the Chair's discretion the item may be delayed until the next month's meeting.

Policy Committees will not represent that they have taken a position on behalf of the City; that authority rests only with the Council as a whole, acting in public Study Session or the formal Council agenda. Policy Committees will not communicate, or authorize communication, on behalf of the City. The Chair of the committee and only the Chair of the committee shall determine the ability of a non-committee member, including staff or members of the public in attendance, to make a comment or respond to questions. When written materials are submitted by a member of the public, they shall be forwarded with the minutes as back-up for consideration by the Council as a whole.

H. Quasi-Judicial Matters. When speaking with individuals or groups on topics which may come before the City Council for a decision, Council Members may not make commitments on how they will vote. When doubt exists as to the permissible pre-Council meeting comments, the City Attorney should be consulted for advice.

I. Violation of City Charter, City Code or Rules of City Council. A violation by a Council Member which is established to the satisfaction of a two-thirds affirmative vote of the entire City Council shall be grounds for an official disciplinary action by the City Council which includes the following:

1. Public censure which may include appropriate remedial actions.
2. Should a Council Member or Members wish to charge another Council Member with a violation of the City Charter, City Code or Rules of City Council, notice of said charge shall be made in writing and shall be given to the accused party. Said notice shall set forth the charge with such specificity that the allegation may be investigated, prepared and presented at a public hearing. A copy of the notice shall be given to the City Attorney. The City Attorney shall notify all Members of Council that such a charge has been made. The City Attorney is authorized to retain special legal counsel for purposes of preparing and presenting the specification of charges.

3. A Council Member who has been given notice of a charge by another Council Member or Members of a violation of the City Charter, City Code or Rules of City Council for grounds for an official disciplinary action shall be entitled to a full public hearing with the right to retain legal counsel at his or her own expense.
4. A public hearing under this provision shall follow procedures set forth under the rules and protections established by the Civil Service Commission for employee discipline.
5. Legal counsel retained for purposes of preparing and presenting the specification of charges may negotiate stipulated facts, procedural matters concerning the public hearing, appropriateness of attorney fees and may also accept the stipulation of a violation.
6. Because the subject of disciplining of an elected official involves complex legal issues, it shall be permissible to convene an executive session for the receipt of legal advice. However, no action or decision may occur in the executive session.
7. If, after a public hearing thereon, a violation has not been established, the Council Member who is the subject of the hearing shall be entitled to reimbursement from the City for all reasonable attorney fees incurred in his or her defense. In calculating the amount of attorney fees to which the Council Member is entitled, the City shall apply the lodestar method used by the federal courts in awarding attorney fees to prevailing parties in cases arising under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

J. Avoidance of an Appearance of Preferential Treatment or Benefits. Council Members shall not solicit or accept discounted or free services for which citizens must pay an established fee. Examples of this prohibition include requests for data from City officials relating to election or reelection activity. A member of City Council may sponsor, free of charge, the utilization of a meeting space at a City facility during normal operating hours and days when City facilities are open to the public by contacting the City Manager. The use/rental of City facilities, during the times and days referenced above, is available to recognized groups and registered HOAs free of charge.

K. Mass E-mail to All City Employees. During the holiday season, the Mayor and City Council may send a joint mass e-mail to City employees expressing holiday greetings. On other special occasions where it is suitable to provide a mass e-mail to City employees, the City Council may authorize the sending of such mass e-mail. No mass e-mails to City employees may be sent by an individual Council Member.

L. Reporting by Elected Candidates - Gifts, Honoraria, and Other Benefits. In compliance with C.R.S. Section 24-6-203, Council Members shall file quarterly reports with the City Clerk. If no reportable activity has taken place in the reporting quarter (January 15th, April 15th, July 15th, and October 15th), the Council Member shall, nevertheless, file a report with the notation "no reportable activity." The City Clerk shall be responsible, during the reasonable time before the end of each reporting quarter, for affirmatively contacting the Council Members to solicit the filing of the report.

**BOARD/COMMISSION SELECTION PROCESS
APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS**

A. Appointments:

1. When the number of applicants is equal to the number of available openings, the motion shall be for appointment:

“I move to appoint (individual(s)) to (name of board).”

2. The motion must be seconded.
3. At this point, the vote is for appointment and having achieved six votes, no further action need be taken.
4. A motion for appointment may include the names of all persons under consideration for appointment.

B. Nominations:

1. When the number of applicants is greater than the number of available openings, the first step shall be to nominate a person. Nominations do not require a second:

“I move to nominate (individual) to (name of board).”

2. Multiple nominations can be made by motion.
3. When all the applicants have been nominated, there shall be a motion to close the nominations with a second.
4. Upon an affirmative vote to close the nominations, the Mayor shall call for a vote on the nominations.
5. Voting shall occur as follows:
 - a. Each person’s nomination shall be voted on separately, in the order nominated.
 - b. Each Council Member gets one vote.
 - c. Nominees receiving six votes shall be considered eligible for appointment. (It may take several rounds to reach this threshold. At each round, the applicant receiving the fewest votes is removed from consideration.)

6. When the number of persons nominated equals the number of available openings, then one motion can be made (and seconded) to appoint those persons to the board:

“I move to appoint (individual(s)) to (name of board).”

Please Note: When the number of applicants is greater than the number of available openings, it is possible to make a motion to appoint instead of a motion to nominate. If that motion is seconded, then the appointment process takes precedence over the nomination process.

CITY COUNCIL ANTI-SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

Sexual Harassment Prohibited.

Members of City Council and Council Appointees are prohibited from sexually harassing other Council Members, Council Appointees, employees or individuals who come into contact with a Council Member or Council Appointees. Sexual harassment is defined as, but not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal/physical conduct of a sexual nature.

The City of Aurora prohibits inappropriate sexual conduct in the workplace. All Council Members and Council Appointees are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. Inappropriate sexual conduct includes but is not limited to, sexually implicit or explicit communications whether in:

Written form, such as cartoons, posters, calendars, notes, letters or e-mail;

Verbal form, such as comments, jokes, foul or obscene language of a sexual nature, gossiping or questions about another's sex life, or repeated unwanted request for dates; or

Physical gestures and other nonverbal behavior, such as unwelcome touching, grabbing, fondling, kissing, massaging and brushing up against another's body.

A Council Member(s) or Council Appointee(s) shall not subject any employee(s) to sexual harassment either verbally or physically. A Council Member(s) or Council Appointee(s) who know of, or receive reports of, sexual harassment by individuals covered by the scope of this policy must take immediate and appropriate action by reporting the harassment to the City Manager or City Attorney who shall forward it on to the Council Evaluation Committee. If Council Appointee(s) engage in or become aware of acts of sexual harassment and do not take appropriate action, the Council Appointee(s) may subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Reports of sexual harassment may also be made by individuals in the public by filing a complaint with the City Manager, City Attorney or Mayor.

Reporting of Harassment.

Reports of sexual harassment received by the City Manager, City Attorney or Mayor shall be forward on to the Council Evaluation Committee. The Council Evaluation Committee which is comprised of the Mayor, the Mayor Pro-Tem, and the Chair of the Management and Finance Committee shall be responsible for initially handling any sexual harassment complaints concerning a Council Member or Council Appointee.

Should a member or members of the Council Evaluation Committee have a conflict, the Council Member(s) having the most seniority and not having a conflict shall be responsible for fulfilling the duties of the Council Evaluation Committee member that had the conflict under this policy.

Retaliation Prohibited.

The City of Aurora prohibits retaliation for filing a complaint regarding illegal sexual harassment for reporting a violation or potential violation of a City of Aurora policy in good faith or for assisting in an investigation. Reporting, investigation, defense, notice and further action shall be the same as that for sexual harassment.

Investigation of Harassment/Discrimination.

For the protection of complainants and those alleged to have violated this policy, an investigation shall be undertaken promptly. The content of complaints and the results of the investigation will be shared with the person accused of sexual harassment.

An investigation shall be conducted by an independent third party. The Council Evaluation Committee shall contact the Director of Human Resources to obtain contact information for the next independent third party investigator in the regular rotation of EEO matters.

Upon completion of the investigation and report of findings, the Council Evaluation Committee shall distribute the report and make recommendations to the full City Council.

In the case of a Council Appointee an executive session may be scheduled as a personnel matter if requested by the Council Appointee and the Council Appointee may attend the executive session under the Colorado Open Meetings Law. An Executive Session may be scheduled as to a Council Member if there is pending or threatened litigation or to obtain legal advice. The Council Member accused of sexual harassment/discrimination may attend an executive session should one be held. No action or decision may occur in the executive session.

Defense of Sexual Harassment or Discrimination Claims.

Legal defense of the City and any Member of Council or Council Appointee is set forth in Article X of the Charter. Defense of sexual harassment claims before administrative agencies or in civil litigation shall be treated in the same manner as all other administrative actions and civil litigation.

Council Member(s) and Council Appointee(s) will only be indemnified against sexual harassment claims if they have completed sexual harassment prevention training.

Legal defense shall not apply to the investigative process.

Payment of legal fees concerning censure shall follow the rules and procedures set forth in the Conduct Guidelines of the Rules of Order and Procedure for the Aurora, Colorado, City Council.

Notice of Investigation Results.

Notice shall be given to the party making a complaint that an investigation into the matter has begun. At the conclusion of the investigation, the complainant will receive an executive summary of whether their complaint was sustained. At no time will they be informed as to what discipline, if any, was administered.

Notice shall be given to the accused party that an investigation into the matter has begun. At the conclusion of the investigation, a full copy of the investigation shall be given. The names of witnesses will be redacted within the copy of the investigation.

All other requests for a copy of the investigation shall comply with the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA), C.R.S. § 24-72-201, et seq., and Complaints of Sexual Harassment, C.R.S. § 27-72-204 (a)(X).

Further Action by Council

The City is obligated to prevent sexual harassment and to correct any instances of sexual harassment once discovered.

If it is determined that a Council Appointee has committed sexual harassment, offenders shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

If it is determined that a Council Member has committed sexual harassment, offenders shall be subject to censure under the rules and procedures set forth in the Conduct Guidelines of the Rules of Order and Procedure for the Aurora, Colorado, City Council or recall by the voters.