

PUBLIC COMMENT — “Replacing Commissioners”

Commissioners,

In 8252.5 (b), the process of refilling empty Commission positions should not be performed as an evaluation by the sitting Commissioners. I believe that a lottery over the affected subpool(s) is a more reasonable process.

Though an intelligent evaluation and discussion among sitting Commissioners might result in an improved balance of demographic and skill factors within the Commission, the process is lengthy and expensive (meeting time, travel, etc.). It also takes a long time to schedule interviews with subpool candidates, etc.

During the first two years of the Commission’s tenure, refilling a vacancy is relatively urgent and refilling multiple vacancies is a critical and potentially crippling event. The refill must occur rapidly and a lottery process supports that urgency.

Given that a subpool of sufficient size (greater than or equal to $2X^1$) exists, the selection process will be shortened by using a lottery. The replacement selection could occur within a very few days given that the relevant subpool has been validated.

Integration of the new members to the Commission will occur and is not an issue.

Thanks,
Jim Wright
a voter from San Jose

¹ “X” is the number of vacancies to be filled.