TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER DEPARTMENT: City Manager’s Office

DATE: February 5, 2007 CMR: 138:07

SUBJECT: POLICY AND SERVICE COMMITTEE FORWARDING TO CITY COUNCIL THE ISSUE OF PAYMENTS TO BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

RECOMMENDATION
The Policy and Services Committee is forwarding to the City Council without recommendation (2-2, Cordell and Barton voting “aye”, Morton and Drekmeier voting “no”) the issue of payments to boards and commissions.

BACKGROUND
Since 1973, the Architectural Review Board, Human Relations Commission and Planning Commission have been authorized a monthly payment of $25 per member per month, in recognition that the members of these bodies regularly incur incidental expenses for local mileage, telephone calls, paperwork and the like in their service to the City.

POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
The Committee members agreed that it would be important to treat all board and commission members equally. Chair Cordell moved, seconded by Council Member Barton, to discontinue all payments to board and commission members, and to phase in the change with existing members as their terms expire. Council Members Drekmeier and Morton expressed the view that the payments were modest and were appropriate in consideration of the considerable volunteer effort that board and commission members expend for the City in their service.

RESOURCE IMPACT
Current payments to board and commission members are budgeted in the related General Fund department’s operating budget and represent a General Fund annual expense of $5,700. Payments are reported as compensation for the recipients, under the requirements of AB 1234. Were all board and commission members to receive the same $25 per month payment, the total General Fund expense would increase to $15,600.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS
Chair Cordell raised the question about whether Resolution 4825, which authorized the current board and commission payments, should be rescinded should the Council decide to discontinue future payments.

PREPARED BY

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