Clarification of Presiding Officer: Public Participation & Board Deliberations

Board President Stacy Doolittle

I'd like to briefly clarify how I intend to manage public and others' participation in my role as presiding officer, consistent with our Administration Code.

Since 2024, our meetings have developed an informal, workshop-style approach that has encouraged contributions from staff, consultants, advisory representatives, and the public. I appreciate the collaborative spirit behind this practice.

To help maintain focused discussions and a clear distinction between public participation and Board deliberations, I'd appreciate cooperation from everyone with the following:

- **Public comment:** Public comments will generally be made from the podium during designated comment periods, with reasonable physical accommodations available when needed or from the Zoom platform.
- **Board deliberations:** I'll focus on recognizing Directors and coordinating requests for information or clarification from staff, consultants, or advisory representatives through the Chair. I'd appreciate Directors making those requests through me, and non-directors refraining from signaling or seeking recognition.
- **CAC:** I'd also welcome the opportunity to explore restoring regular CAC reports to future agendas, providing a dedicated opportunity to hear about the Council's informal discussions and formally adopted recommendations. This will help make a distinction between public comment and official reports or CAC recommendations.

This is simply a clarification of how I intend to facilitate our meetings as presiding officer.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Supporting Authority

JBWD Administration Code §§ 7.07.01 and 7.07.05 — Presiding officer responsibilities and recognition of speakers.

California Government Code § 54954.3 — Public comment opportunities on agenda items.