

# Council Meeting Start Times



- Background
  - Settlement Agreement with District Elections Committee
- Data
  - Length of meetings
    - Goleta average: 6+ hours (with closed session)
    - Regional average: 2 hours (without closed session)
  - Start Time Practices
    - Local
    - Statewide (36 responses)
  - Informal Survey (89 respondents)
    - Public Participation
    - Potential Candidates

# Council Meeting Start Times

- Why Change Start Times?
  - Public Participation
    - 54% people had watched or attended in the last year
    - 56% said they would watch or attend more if the meetings were held in the evenings
    - 63% said they tend to watch items of interest vs. whole meeting
  - Potential Candidates
    - Survey
      - 23 of 89 said they'd considered running for Council
      - 15 said start time would matter
    - Other factors:
      - Council compensation
      - Daytime commitments of a Councilmember

# Council Meeting Start Times

- Discussion
  - PEC Recommendation #1 (JUNE)
    - 3 Evening Meetings/Month – 4:30 closed; 6:30 open
  - PEC Recommendation #2 (AUG)
    - 2 Evening Meeting/Month – 4:30 closed; 6:30 open
    - Don't cancel July & August meetings
    - Pare down recognitions and presentations
- Options
  - Status Quo
  - Keep existing schedule; do not cancel July & August
  - Two Evening Meetings
    - If need additional meetings – all in evening
    - If need additional meetings – all in afternoon
  - Other:
    - Three/Four Evening Meetings
    - Scheduling additional meetings

# Council Meeting Start Times

- Impacts of Changing Start Time
  - Length of meetings
  - Delay in addressing items
  - Cost
  - Staff time devoted to meeting agenda production = less time for operational and policy items

# TABLE OF OPTIONS

	PROS				CONS				
	Possible increase in participation	Greater possibility those who work/attend school could attend and/or run for office	Consistency of schedule	No additional or minimal cost	Backlog of agenda items	Long meetings	Increased cost	Difficult to arrange with Council schedules (with addl. mtgs.)	Confusing schedule
OPTION 1: Status quo			X	X					
OPTION 2: Two meetings/month but do not cancel July and August meetings			X	X					
OPTION 3: 2 regular evening mtgs/month, starting at 4:30 p.m. for closed session and 6:30 p.m. for open session	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
OPTION 3A: 2 regular evening mtgs/month, Schedule any additional meetings after 4:30 p.m.	X	X					X	X	X
OPTION 3B: 2 regular evening mtgs/month, Schedule any additional meetings at any time.	X	X					X	X	X