City of Santa Fe
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Date: October 9, 2026

To: Finance Committee

From: Chair Faulkner, City Councilor; Marci Eannarino, Manager of Legislation and Policy Innovation

RE: Legislation and policy development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The following items are topics of conversation that relate to the development of policy decisions that shape legislation. The first item is a conversation about the process itself for developing legislation. The last three items are related to the topic of advisory bodies (sometimes called advisory committees, sometimes called boards, commissions etc.) at the City of Santa Fe ("City").

I. A "legislation item" on the Finance Committee - discussion as a process
II. Should there be term limits for advisory committees?
    a. If there should be term limits, how long should those terms be?
    b. Should appointments be staggered if there are term limits?
    c. Does the concept of term limits create an issue recruitment of members?
III. Should there be standardization with respect to committee membership qualifications?
    a. Should there be "at large" members?
    b. Should there be certain expertise on each committee?
IV. Financial and informational resource management for committees.
V. What is the mechanism for closing the feedback loop between the Advisory Committees, the Council, and Governing Body?

BACKGROUND:

There is an interest on the part of multiple City Councilors in finding ways to more fully develop ideas and vet legislative concepts that shape the legislation. There is interest on the part of multiple Governing Body members in looking into ways to make advisory bodies more effective and efficient at the City.

ATTACHMENTS:

None at this time