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From: "Cecily Hastings" <Cecily@insidepublications.com>
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CC: "Dawn Bullwinkel" <DBullwinkel@cityofsacramento.org>, "Matthew Ruyak" <M...>
Date: 10/14/2009 11:24 AM
Subject: Comments and feedback

Hello Cecily-

It was a most interesting and informative meeting. I am so glad I attended.

The only critique: need to address at the beginning the meeting's purpose with an explanation of the reason for the talk. It was only later in the meeting that I realized the committee's recommendations contained the possibility of the council voting on it as an alternative ballot measure. That is such an important point and leads into the reason for having the community input. Perhaps it was me, but I kept wondering why we were there and the results/outcome of the night's meeting. You already had your recommendations for the council, would our input potentially cause changes to the recommendations? By the way, the presentation handout that mirrored the presentation board was excellent and well organized. It was easy to follow the process and was informative.

Additionally, an emphasis should be placed less on the continuance of the current council process and instead should be placed on the idea that the committee is seeking recommendations for change within the framework of the current system. It should also be stated that this would give voters an alternative to the extreme "strong mayor" ballot measure.

The current council process was created in 1921 to stem political corruption practices, and originated at a time of a different population period. It is only valid that some tweaking and changes be made almost 100 yrs later to more accurately reflect the changes in population growth and diversity that is the city of Sacramento today. It should be clearly stated at the beginning that rather than having one ballot measure as an "either/or" alternative for voters (strong mayor measure), your committee recommendation would allow for a new, but still stable alternative to the current system.

Hope this helps and please feel free to reply here or call if you have any questions about my expressed opinion.

Sincerely,
Jolene Eveland