
DRMC and Rules of Procedure Changes Regarding Approval of Contracts

Governance and Intergovernmental Relations Committee, March 17, 2026
By Council Members Flynn, Parady and Sandoval



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Background

- Charter 3.2.6(F) - Leases and contracts, first passed by voters in November 1982, gives City Council the power to approve or reject contracts valued at \$500,000 or more
- Also authority over sale or lease of city property, intergovernmental agreements and certain revenue contracts



Problem statement

- Under current practice, Council members don't receive contract documents until Thursday afternoon prior to Monday legislative meeting.
- Prior to 2015, Council took action by way of two-reading Bills, giving members 11 days to review contracts
- This changed to one-reading Resolutions for most contracts, leaving members only 4 days to review contracts
- Rule 3.6 was added allowing any member to delay a vote to the next meeting if more time was needed



Proposal

- **DRMC amendment of Chapter 13, Article II** to clarify that the 30-day period for Council review starts with noon Thursday filing of a contract for Council's Monday legislative meeting
- **Rules of Procedure amendment** specifying that contracts and other items under 3.2.6(F) that are scheduled for committee action or consent must be accompanied by the current draft of the contract or other documents by the time of the committee meeting
- Council President, or committee chairs by delegation, may waive this requirement if it would cause unnecessary delay



Rationale

- 3.2.6(F) states that the 30-day review period starts when the item is “...submitted for (Council’s) approval...”
- Council committees include only some members as voting members, and cannot approve contracts; committees merely determine if an item is ready to be submitted (or filed) for full Council approval
- Contracts are not submitted for Council approval until the noon Thursday filing deadline



Action requested

- Approve filing of DRMC amendment to full council
- Approve filing of resolution amending Rules of Procedure



Questions



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