

CITY OF MILPITAS

COMMISSION BY-LAWS

Section 1. Purpose

A Commission serves as an active advisory group to the City Council on a variety of topics as directed by the City Council. These Commission By-Laws are applicable to all Commissions except for the Planning Commission, which is governed by the Municipal Code, Chapter 500. In addition to these By-Laws, each Commission shall have an addendum that is specific to the Commission and includes information about the Commission scope, member eligibility, and meeting frequency.

Section 2. Membership

A Commission is composed of seven (7) members and two (2) alternates appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. All members and alternates shall be Milpitas residents, 18 years or older, unless otherwise noted in the Commission Bylaws Addendum. In addition to the seven (7) members and two (2) alternates, one (1) Milpitas resident enrolled in grades 9-12 may also be appointed as non-voting member by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council for all Commissions except for the Youth Advisory Commission. The City Council may appoint a Council liaison to serve on the Commission in a non-voting capacity.

Section 3. Term of Office & Removal

The term of office is three years, or until the seat is filled, for every Commission and is tied to specific seats, not actual Commission members or alternates. A Commission member or alternate is appointed for the term of the seat, which can be less than three years, based on the time of appointment. A Commission member can re-apply at the end of each term.

Members and alternates are expected to attend all meetings. When any member or alternate has three or more absences in a 12-month period, the City Clerk's Office shall forward this information to the City Council for review and possible removal of the member or alternate from the Commission. Any member or alternate of the Commission may be removed from office at any time by a simple majority vote of the City Council at a regularly scheduled Council meeting, with or without cause.

Members and alternates may apply for reappointment by submitting a letter or e-mail of interest to the Mayor with a copy to the City Clerk prior to the expiration of his/her term of office. Any member or alternate of the Commission who wishes to resign MUST submit a letter of resignation or email to the Mayor with a copy to the City Clerk. Resignations will be confirmed by the City Council at a regularly scheduled Council meeting.

Section 4. Vacancies

Vacancies will be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council.

Section 5. Officers

A Chair and Vice Chair will be selected annually at the first meeting of the calendar year from the appointed members for a term of one year. The Chair will call for meetings and preside over all sessions. In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, the member with longest continuous service on the Commission will preside.

Section 6. Meetings

Commissions shall hold regular meetings at a predetermined day, week, time and location. All meetings shall be open to the public. Should a scheduled meeting occur on a holiday, said meeting will be deferred to the same day of the following week or to a date agreed upon by a majority of the Commission. Special meetings may be called by majority vote, the Chair, Staff Liaison, or the City Council. No meetings will be held in the month of July. Notice of any special meeting shall be given as required by law. Except as otherwise provided by these Bylaws, the Commission shall follow the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order for the orderly conduct of meetings.

Section 7. Quorum

A quorum is a majority of the total voting seats on the Commission. Any FOUR (4) voting members, including alternates, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Alternates count towards quorum even when not seated until after the start of a meeting.

Section 8. Voting and Seating of Alternates

Voting authority is extended to the SEVEN (7) regular members. An alternate member shall vote only if seated in the absence of a regular member. In the event that a regular member is absent, alternate members shall be seated in order of their alternate position. If a member arrives after an alternate has been seated, the alternate shall remain as the voting member until the end of the meeting.

Section 9. Duties of Commission to be Advisory Only

It is intended that the Commission shall be an advisory body to the City Council.

Section 10. Subcommittees

Other committees within the Commission will be subcommittees of the Commission. The Commission may appoint such subcommittees, with at least one Commission member on the subcommittee, but not more than three members so as not to constitute a quorum.

Section 11. Assistance of Staff

The City Manager of the City of Milpitas shall provide the Commission with such information and staff assistance as the Commission may from time to time request subject to the limitations imposed by the City Council. The staff member designated by the City Manager shall attend meetings of the Commission, meetings of the Commission subcommittee as necessary, and submit such reports as said Commission may request and as deemed necessary or desirable, subject to limitations imposed by the City Council. The role of the Staff Liaison on a Commission is defined and should be referred to in the City of Milpitas Commissioner Handbook.

Section 12. Amendments

These Bylaws are subject to change through amendments approved by the City Council.

PASSED AND ADOPTED APRIL 16, 2019.
REVISED JANUARY 19, 2021, AUGUST 16, 2022

Addendums:

- 1) Arts Commission
- 2) Community Advisory Commission
- 3) Economic Development and Trade Commission
- 4) Energy and Environmental Sustainability Commission
- 5) Measure F Oversight Committee
- 6) Library and Education Advisory Commission
- 7) Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Commission
- 8) Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Commission
- 9) Senior Advisory Commission
- 10) Science, Technology, and Innovation Commission
- 11) Veterans Commission
- 12) Youth Advisory Commission