

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST
(Revised 6/12/2023)

[Park Code - PROSAC Membership]

Ordinance amending the Park Code to 1) reduce the number of seats on the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Committee (PROSAC), 2) provide for alternate members, 3) allow members to serve for more than four consecutive terms, 4) provide for the appointment of members having experience with environmental justice and racial equity and disability issues; and 5) provide that meetings shall occur at City Hall.

Existing Law

The Park, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee (“PROSAC”) is a citizen advisory committee that makes recommendations to the Recreation and Park Department. PROSAC has 23 members. The Mayor appoints one member, and the 11 members of the Board of Supervisors appoint two members each: one from their supervisorial district, and one from the Recreation and Park Commission’s list of persons nominated by organizations that focus on park, environmental, recreational, cultural, sports, youth or senior citizen issues. (Four of the members from this list must be nominated by an environmental organization.) PROSAC members serve two-year terms, but cannot serve more than four consecutive terms.

Amendments to Current Law

The ordinance would reduce PROSAC to 13 members. The Mayor would still appoint one member, but going forward, the President of the Board of Supervisors would appoint one member from an environmental justice organization; and each Supervisor would appoint one regular voting member and one specific alternate for that member. The alternate would only participate if the regular voting member could not attend, so the total number of seats would be 13. The ordinance also states that PROSAC may include people experienced with racial equity or disability issues. Finally, the ordinance would delete the restriction on members serving more than four consecutive terms, and provide that meetings occur at City Hall.

The ordinance is not intended to disqualify any current PROSAC members from service. The current Board-appointees would need to decide amongst themselves, or let PROSAC decide, which of them should be the regular voting member versus the alternate. Going forward, the Board of Supervisors would decide which appointees serve as regular voting members versus as alternates, and would need to ensure appointees reside in their supervisorial districts.

Background

The ordinance was amended in the Rules Committee on May 8, 2023, to provide for a Presidential appointee, and to address disability issues and the location of the meetings. On June 12, the Rules Committee further amended the ordinance to add experience in racial

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equity issues as a qualifying experience, and to encourage alternates to attend and participate in meetings of the Committee.

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