City Council

Notice of Motion

MM13.17	ACTION			Ward: All
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Balanced Approach to Distributing Legislative Meeting Materials - by Councillor Chris Moise, seconded by Councillor Amber Morley

* Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice. * This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.

* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.

Recommendations

Councillor Chris Moise, seconded by Amber Morely, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Clerk to consult and survey Members of Council for their interest and requirements in receiving paper copies of legislative meeting material and report back with findings, a proposal and budget implications, as well as options for implementation as part of the 2024 Budget process.

Summary

As City Councillors, we often find ourselves overwhelmed with agenda items and supporting documents. Although the Clerk's Meeting Portal - which is an incredible software - and devices have been provided to us, navigating the numerous documents online has been challenging and we know that a technology-only approach does not work for everyone.

Our past process of providing printed materials was understandibly discontinued, during the pandemic, however the practice continued post-pandemic without consulting members. This has resulted in decentralizing the practice and staff from the Mayor's office as well as several Councillor's offices have had to take hours of time to print, collate, and prepare binders for Boards, Committees, and City Council.

We need a more balanced approach that is considerate of the impacts on accessibility, vision health, and reducing screen time.

Instead of eliminating this service outright, while recognizing our commitment to environmental responsibility, we are proposing that City Council revisit the method of distributing materials for decision making bodies supported by the City Clerk's office as optional and on a by-request basis. This would greatly support council members who prefer or need printed materials while balancing our commitment to reducing paper consumption.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM13.17