CITY OF OAKLAND
Public Ethics Commission
Victor Ochoa, *Chair*
Alden Mudge, *Vice-Chair*
Barbara Newcombe
Peter Reinke
Lily Kimura
Jon Sylvester
Kathryn Kasch

Daniel D. Purnell, Executive Director

One Frank Ogawa Plaza, 4th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 238-3593 Fax: (510) 238-3315

TO: Public Ethics Commission
FROM: Daniel Purnell
DATE: October 6, 2003

RE: A Staff Report And Action To Be Taken Regarding Amendments To Public Ethics Commission Bylaws

At its July 7, 2003, meeting, the Commission considered and approved a proposal to re-organize its current standing committee structure. The Commission expressed its approval for creating a "Lobbyist and Campaign Finance Committee." The new committee's responsibilities would include 1) reviewing compliance with, and the effectiveness of, the Lobbyist Registration Act, Limited Public Financing Act and OCRA; 2) making recommendations to the Commission regarding specific amendments; and 3) preparing reports or information to better advise the public and the regulated community of their rights and obligations under the above laws.

Under the proposed change, the Commission would retain two of its existing standing committees, the Sunshine Committee and the Education Committee. The current Rules Committee would be eliminated as a standing committee, although its function could be revived as a temporary ad hoc committee when necessary.

The Commission also directed staff to review the Commission bylaws in order to propose additional changes necessary to achieve conformity with the recently amended Sunshine Ordinance. Attachment 1 contains a redline format showing all proposed changes to the relevant sections of the Commission bylaws.

According to the Commission's enabling ordinance, any amendment to the bylaws must be transmitted to the City Council within seven days after their adoption by the Commission. The bylaws become effective sixty days after adoption by the Commission unless two-thirds of the City Council vote to veto the amendments.

Commission staff recommends that the Commission adopt the proposed amendments to the bylaws and direct staff to convey them to the Oakland City Council for review and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel D. Purnell
Executive Director