

**CITY OF OAKLAND**  
**Public Ethics Commission**

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Peter Reinke, *Vice-Chair*  
Lily Kimura  
Jon H. Sylvester  
Kathryn Kasch  
Ralph Kanz



Daniel D. Purnell, Executive Director

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**TO:** Public Ethics Commission  
**FROM:** Daniel Purnell  
**DATE:** May 3, 2004

**RE: Review Of Commission Annual Retreat**

On April 3, 2004, the Commission held its annual retreat to prioritize policy goals and review current Commission procedures. This memorandum memorializes the specific goals the Commission seeks to accomplish in the coming year.

**I. Policy Goals**

The Commission was apprised of ongoing staff efforts to analyze the Oakland Campaign Reform Act (OCRA). Staff anticipates that a comprehensive analysis of OCRA will be ready for Commission review sometime this summer. The Commission's Campaign Finance and Lobbyist Registration Committee is currently reviewing the Lobbyist Registration Act and expects to produce specific proposed amendments to the Act by the June or July regular meeting. Commission staff also reported that any amendments to the Limited Public Financing Ordinance that may have an impact on the money needed to operate the program during the 2006 election cycle should be completed by this fall when budgetary estimates for the 2005-2007 fiscal year are due.

The Commission developed a general consensus that it would like to develop a citywide Code of Ethics that may consist of aspirational goals and/or specific legislation to guide the conduct of City officials and employees. The Commission also expressed a desire to review its General Complaint Procedures and other established ethics programs to create a process in which the Commission could issue so-called "letters of concern" in lieu of, or in addition to, any formal remedy provided by ordinance.

Finally, the Commission expressed a desire to review the Sunshine Ordinance in light of changes brought about by Measure X and Measure P in order to conform the

ordinance with the City's new administrative structure. This review will be initiated by the Commission's standing Sunshine Committee.

## **II. Administrative Goals**

The Commission expressed a desire to adhere to the existing General Complaint Procedures that require those complaints recommended for dismissal by the Executive Director to be placed on a consent calendar for Commission action. (Under existing procedures, two or more Commissioners may request that any complaint be removed from the consent calendar for discussion and action.)

The Commission also expressed a desire for more study session items on the regular agenda that will review specific laws under the Commission's jurisdiction, as well as informational and status reports on the implementation of City laws.

## **III. Commission Outreach**

The Commission reviewed administrative efforts to increase the Commission's visibility in the Oakland community including efforts to improve electronic distribution of Commission agenda packages, website improvements and speaking engagements. The Commission expressed a desire to meet and hear from other local jurisdictions on items of mutual concern.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel D. Purnell  
Executive Director