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- D. Minutes of the previous meeting and agenda of the upcoming meeting should be sent to Commission members no later than three (3) business days before the upcoming meeting. Whenever possible, an explanation of agenda items shall accompany the notification. Commission members who are absent shall receive all material distributed at missed meetings.
- E. All meetings shall be open and public.
  - 1. Any person may request to be heard on an agenda item before it is acted upon.
  - 2. No person shall address the Commission until he or she has first been recognized by the Chair. All persons addressing the Commission shall be asked to give their names and affiliations for the record.
  - 3. Notwithstanding any other provision, members of the public shall have the right to address the Commission on items of interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Prior to the public comment, the Chair may, at his or her discretion, announce the total amount of time available for comment and, where appropriate, may set limits on the time to be spent on particular issues and on the amount of time available to each speaker.
  - 4. The Chair is responsible for meeting agendas. The Commission members may request the Chair place an item on the agenda and the Executive Director may place items on the agenda in consultation with the Chair. The Commission may formally act to place an item on the agenda.
  - 5. Audio recordings of all the Commissions' Regular Meetings are for the purpose of preparing minutes and may be disposed of thereafter. At the direction of the Commission or the Chair, specific recordings may be retained for a longer period.

## **ARTICLE X Committees**

### **Section I. Formation of Committees**

The Commission may establish one or more standing committee(s), and the Chair may appoint one or more ad hoc committee(s), working groups and/or technical advisory committee(s) to provide technical and professional expertise and support for any purposes that will be beneficial in accomplishing the purposes of the Act. The Commission may define and limit the scope and authority of standing committee(s), and establish rules of operation for the committee(s). The Chair may define and limit the scope and authority of ad hoc committee(s) and working groups, and establish rules of operation for these committee(s) and working groups. Each committee shall meet and shall make recommendations and reports as deemed necessary or appropriate by the Commission. In the absence of the committee chairperson, the Vice Chair shall conduct routine business matters and meetings of the committee.

### **Section II. Committee Structure/Authority**

#### **A. Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall be a standing Committee of the Commission. Membership of the Executive Committee shall be comprised of the Chair of the Planning Committee, two other voting members of the Commission appointed each year by the Chair, and the Vice Chair of the Commission. The Vice Chair shall serve as the Chair of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall meet in open and public sessions in compliance with the Brown Act except where a closed session is warranted and called according to applicable law. The duties of the Executive Committee shall include the review of the draft annual operating budget, supervising and providing oversight of the annual audit of the Commission, review of the draft annual report to the State Commission, advice and feedback to the Executive Director regarding operational issues including, but not limited to:

- contract compliance
- quality assurance
- evaluation
- policy advocacy
- personnel and compensation issues

In addition, the Executive Committee shall draft the annual evaluation of the Executive Director for consideration and action by the full Commission, supervise any Commission self-assessment process initiated by the full-Commission and perform any other function delegated to it by the full Commission or the Chair. The term of office on the Executive Committee shall be for one (1) calendar year. No person shall serve as Chair of the Executive Committee for more than four (4) consecutive terms, although this limit shall apply only to consecutive terms on the Committee, and shall not limit subsequent, non-consecutive terms.

The Executive Committee shall not make binding decisions that are decisions of the Commission under applicable law and shall periodically report its activities to the full Commission. Minutes of Executive Committee meetings shall be kept and distributed to all members of the Commission.

## **B. Program and Planning Committee**

The Program and Planning Committee shall be a standing Committee of the Commission to serve as the forum for Commissioners, staff and the public to engage and consider program, policy, evaluation and fiscal recommendations for future initiative development and implementation in a study session format. The Planning Committee shall meet in open and public sessions in compliance with the Brown Act except where a closed session is warranted and called according to applicable law. Recommendations and feedback from Planning Committee meetings shall be used to inform design and evaluation of programs and initiatives and contribute towards the strategic plan development of First 5 LA. In addition, new ideas and concepts for future funding and projects may be introduced at the Planning Committee. The Commission Chair shall appoint a member in January of each year to serve as the Committee Chair, and four other members of the Commission to serve as members of the Committee, although any Commissioner, whether voting or *ex-officio*, may attend and participate in meetings of the Planning Committee. Membership on the Committee is open to all Members of the Commission. In the absence of the Committee Chair, another member of the Committee designated by the Chair shall serve as Committee Chair.

The jurisdiction of the Planning Committee shall be limited to providing original ideas as well as feedback and recommendations to staff and/or the Commission regarding future actions of the Commission. No binding action of the Commission shall be taken at any Committee meeting. In-person Attendance by three (3) members of the Committee at a noticed meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of Committee business.

Regular meetings of the Planning Committee shall be held each month unless cancelled or postponed by the Committee Chair or the Executive Director for lack of a quorum or lack of business to be transacted. Special meetings of the full Commission may be held jointly with the Program and Planning Committee at the discretion of the Chair or the Executive Director.

## **C. Budget and Finance Committee**

The Budget and Finance Committee shall be a standing Committee of the Commission. The Commission Chair shall appoint a member each year to serve as the Committee Chair, and three other voting members of the Commission to serve as members of the Committee. The Budget and Finance Committee shall oversee the effectiveness of the annual audit process and assist in maintaining the integrity of internal control and financial reporting. The Budget and Finance Committee shall provide feedback and advice to the Executive Director regarding the following budget and fiscal tasks:

- Review draft annual business plan and proposed budgets.
- Review proposed fiscal policies and procedures.
- Review proposed scopes of work for annual audits.
- Ensure that required annual audits occur and review audit reports.
- Review audited financial statements.

- Other tasks delegated to the Committee by the full Commission, the Executive Committee, or as requested by the Executive Director.

The term of office on the Budget and Finance Committee shall be for one (1) calendar year. The Budget and Finance Committee shall meet in open and public sessions in compliance with the Brown Act except where a closed session is warranted and called according to applicable law. The Budget and Finance Committee shall not make binding decisions that are decisions of the Commission under applicable law and shall periodically report its activities to the full Commission. Minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee meetings shall be kept and distributed to all members of the Commission.

### **Section III. Committee Purpose and Scope of Authority**

The status (standing or *ad hoc*), purpose and authority of committees shall be determined by the Commission at the time they are formed. However, the Commission may modify a committee's status, purpose or authority at any time.

A committee may act within the delegated authority without further approval by the Commission. However, as provided for under Article VIII, no committee or committee members shall make or issue policy statements, recommendations, or media releases without prior approval of the Commission. Further, any committee activity which implies action by the Commission or is outside the committee's delegated authority is not permitted without specific Commission approval.

Following the Commission's action establishing a committee, the Executive Director shall provide the committee with a copy of its status, purpose and authority from the Commission minutes, and shall be responsible for providing staff support to the committee.

## **ARTICLE XI Amendments**

Notice of a proposed amendment to these Bylaws shall be given to each member of the Commission at least 21 days prior to the meeting at which it will be considered. Approval of amendments requires an affirmative vote of seven (7) of the nine (9) voting members of the Commission.