

November 18, 2024

From Stephen J. Gray

RE: Topic for December 9 Agenda (Gray): Advisory Committee Eligibility- "Time-Out Provisions"

Section 3.04 (4) of the City Charter prohibits elected city councilors from taking a compensated position with the city until four years after the expiration of the term for which the council member was elected. However, the City Charter does not address service by former elected city councilors on an advisory board or committee after leaving office.

City councilors can make important contributions to the community after leaving office. However, serving on city boards and advisory committees is problematic. Former councilors may continue to push a specific agenda after leaving office, especially if they have been unsuccessful with that effort during their time on council. They may also attempt to dominate the advisory board or committee, which could stifle information sharing among volunteer citizen members and make it difficult for the board or committee to work effectively on issues.

Recommendation: Establish a policy through resolution to limit former city councilors from being appointed to advisory boards or committees until two years after the expiration of the term for which the council member was elected.



Stephen J. Gray