

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

ITEM NO. 6.16

DATE: September 8, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Marianna A. Burch, City Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution approving City Council Policy on City Officials' Use of Electronic

Communications and Social Media.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the City Council adopt a resolution approving the City Council Policy on City Officials' Use of Electronic Communications and Social Media.

DECISION TYPE

Administrative

SUMMARY

Staff recommends the City Council adopt a resolution approving the City Council Policy on City Officials' Use of Electronic Communications and Social Media based on feedback provided by the City Council at the July 28 workshop.

DISCUSSION

At the July 28, 2025, workshop, the City Council received a presentation and training on the Policy on City Officials' Use of Electronic Communications and Social Media and directed staff to finalize it as presented. The policy establishes clear expectations, guidelines, and legal requirements for how City Officials, including Council Members and Advisory Body Members, engage through personal and City-affiliated digital platforms. It reinforces that while electronic tools can enhance communication with the public, they must be used in strict adherence to the Brown Act and Assembly Bill 992, which restrict certain interactions between members of the same legislative body on social media to avoid violations such as serial meetings. The policy also provides direction on account management, record retention, and the use of disclaimers to separate personal views from official City positions. These provisions are intended to protect transparency, uphold public trust, and reduce legal risk while supporting thoughtful and compliant public engagement.

FISCAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACTS

There are no fiscal or administrative impacts.

COMMUNITY PILLAR

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GOAL

1: Engage effectively with the Mayor and City Council

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Resolution
- 2. Exhibit A Electronic Communications and Social Media Policy

Prepared by: Stephanie Egidio

Acting Deputy City Manager

Approved by:

Signature of the state of the