



Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission

Wes Benwick, Chair
Jason Fischer, Vice Chair
Joe Andrews, Secretary

RESOLUTION 2010-8

EXPRESSING THE TRUE COMMISSION'S SUPPORT FOR RESTORING AN ETHICS CODE TO THE CITY CHARTER AND COORDINATING AND MAXIMIZING THE ETHICS, COMPLIANCE AND OVERSIGHT FUNCTIONS OF THE CITY AND ITS INDEPENDENT AUTHORITIES

WHEREAS, the TRUE Commission is composed of a number of citizens representing community and business interests, all of whom bring a variety of skills and perspectives to the process of reviewing and commenting upon City financial and management issues; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has reviewed pending Ordinance 2010-616, as amended by the City Council Special Committee to Review Charter Revision Commission Recommendations, that proposes to restore an Ethics Code article to the City Charter, which originally contained such an article upon adoption in 1968, but was subsequently removed in the early 1970s; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes that the City and its independent authorities all have existing ethics, compliance and oversight policies and functions handled in a variety of ways through ethics officers, ethics commissions, inspectors general, internal auditors, reporting hotlines, audit committees, and other mechanisms, all of which do valuable work, but which often do not work in concert or communicate with each other to share knowledge, experiences, and best practices and to address potentially overlapping issues; and

WHEREAS, the TRUE Commission believes that public confidence in the high ethical standards of their public officers and employees is vital to the proper functioning of government, and believes that restoration of an Ethics Code to the City Charter and better coordination and maximization of existing ethics, compliance and oversight efforts among the City and its independent authorities would be of great benefit and would strengthen citizen confidence in the integrity of their government; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the TRUE Commission hereby supports the restoration of a broad Ethics Code to the City Charter, with details of process, procedure and organization to be determined by City Council via a codified ethics ordinance, and urges the City and its independent authorities to coordinate and maximize their existing ethics, compliance and oversight efforts, personnel and funding to greater effect.

Adopted by an 11-0 vote of the Commission this 30th day of September, 2010.

Wes Benwick, Chairman