



## CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

**TO:** Honorable City Council **Item No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**FROM:** Matthew Rodriguez, Interim City Administrator

**SUBJECT:** A Resolution Creating a Special Needs Commission

**MEETING DATE:** August 15, 2017

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Council discretion.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Among the City's residents and visitors are those with special needs, including mental and physical disabilities. Mayor Rebollo has recommended that the Council consider creating a commission that would focus on programs and services required for such persons.

### **ANALYSIS:**

Local legislative bodies in the state of California have the authority to create commissions and boards as part of the sub-government of the local government, unless otherwise limited by state law. The City of Commerce ("the City") has created and maintains several commissions, including the Planning Commission, Public Safety & Community Services Commission, and Traffic Commission, among others.

Persons with special needs have particular impediments that warrant consideration when developing policy, evaluating projects, and making other important determinations made by the City Council. The proposed commission would act in an advisory capacity to the City Council regarding concerns and/or issues affecting people with special needs. The Commission would act on its own initiative to make recommendations to the City Council on programs and services designed to help people with special needs lead a full and healthy life. The Commission would also facilitate coordination, cooperation, and communication between existing and proposed services for people with special needs.

The Commission would consist of five members. Each Commissioner would have to possess a degree in special education, have work experience in a relevant field, or have significant hands-on experience with aiding those with special needs. Community members will have the opportunity to apply to the City, and the Council will collectively

assess and appoint the Commissioners. The Commissioners will serve at the pleasure of the Council.

The Commission would be required to develop a yearly work plan. It will also have to adopt such rules and regulations for its governance (subject to Council discretion), such as the time and place of meetings and the methods of electing officers.

**RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:**

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**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the Resolution;
2. Reject the Resolution;
3. Provide Staff with further direction.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Each Commissioner will be paid \$40 per meeting. Resources to support the Commission's work will be determined once the goals and priorities of the Commission have been established.

Recommended by:	Mayor Oralía Rebollo
Prepared and submitted by:	Matthew Rodriguez, Interim Executive Director
Reviewed by:	Vilko Domic, Director of Finance
Approved as to form by:	Eduardo Olivo, City Attorney