



Beverly Hills City Council Liaison / Human Relations Commission Committee will conduct a Special Meeting, at the following time and place, and will address the agenda listed below:

**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
455 N. Rexford Drive
Room 280A
Beverly Hills, CA 90210**

IN-PERSON / TELEPHONIC / VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

**Beverly Hills Liaison Committee Meeting
<https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/committee>
Meeting ID: 516 191 2424
Passcode: 90210**

**You can also dial in by phone:
+1 669 900 9128 US
+1 833 548 0282 (Toll-Free)**

**One tap mobile:
+16699009128,,5161912424# US
+18335480282,,5161912424# US (Toll-Free)**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2024
4:30 PM**

Please be advised that pre-entry metal detector screening requirements are now in place in City Hall. Members of the public are requested to plan visits accordingly.

In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can view this meeting through live webcast at www.beverlyhills.org/live and on BH Channel 10 or Channel 35 on Spectrum Cable, and can participate in the teleconference/video conference by using the link above. Written comments may be emailed to mayorandcitycouncil@beverlyhills.org and will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Beverly Hills City Council Liaison / Human Relations Commission Committee. Beverly Hills Liaison meetings will be in-person at City Hall.

AGENDA

- 1) Public Comment
 - a. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to directly address the Committee on any item listed on the agenda.
- 2) Update to Election Civility Statement
- 3) CAGF Process Update

4) Adjournment



Huma Ahmed
City Clerk

Posted: March 20, 2024



Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please call (310) 285-1014 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY). Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, Room 280A is wheelchair accessible.



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Human Relations Council Liaisons

FROM: Christopher Paulson, Human Services Administrator
Enisha Clark, LCSW, Human Services Outreach Manager
Stephanie Harris, Director of Community Services

DATE: March 27, 2024

SUBJECT: Update to Election Civility Statement

ATTACHMENTS:

1. City Council Staff Report – Human Relations Commission Election Civility Statement for the Community – March 2, 2010
2. Election Civility Statement (Current)
3. Election Civility Statement (Final Draft)

INTRODUCTION

At the October 2023 Human Relations Commission meeting, Chair Freeman requested to add to the November agenda a discussion of updating the Election Civility Statement. The Chair noted that social media was not a political tool when this statement was created and adopted in 2010 like it is today, and the statement should be updated to reflect that reality.

DISCUSSION

The Human Relations Commission's (HRC) current civility initiative started in December 2007 when the HRC appointed an ad hoc committee to explore ways to foster civility in our community. By late 2009, the HRC had begun the process of drafting an election civility statement, starting with the formation of an ad hoc committee of the Commission. The ad hoc met to draft the statement before bringing the statement to the full HRC for approval.

From there a Human Relations Commission liaisons meeting was scheduled with the Mayor and Vice Mayor at the time on November 30, 2009. The HRC Liaisons worked to draft the Election Civility Statement for the Beverly Hills community which was then approved and adopted by the full City Council at the March 2, 2010 City Council meeting. The City Council staff report for that meeting is attached to this report.

The process to update the Election Civility Statement would remain the same as it was in 2010. At the November 2023 Commission meeting it was agreed for this item to be part of the Commission's Civility Ad Hoc which includes Vice Chair Margo and Commissioner Kaiserman.

Commissioners were also encouraged to return to the December 2023 meeting with ideas and suggestions for updating the statement. At the December 2023 meeting, then-Chair Freeman proposed additional language to be added to the existing Election Civility Statement and created a temporary ad hoc consisting of herself and Vice Chair Margo to work out the details of the additional language and return to the full Commission with a final draft to review and consider.

The ad hoc of Chair Margo and Commissioner Freeman recommended the draft statement be presented to the full Commission for review at the January 18, 2024 meeting. The Commission approved the statement as presented and recommend review and consideration by City Council Liaisons.

Council Liaisons are requested to review the draft statement with the ad hoc, make any necessary changes or edits, and then recommend the statement to the full City Council for adoption. If adopted by the City Council, the statement can be routed to the City Clerk's office for continued inclusion in candidate handbooks prior to future municipal elections.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council Liaisons review the draft statement with the ad hoc, make any changes or edits, and then recommend the statement to the full City Council for adoption.

Attachment 1



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: March 2, 2010
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: James R. Latta, L.C.S.W., Human Services Administrator;
Julie Kahn, M.S.W., Human Services Outreach Manager
Subject: Human Relations Commission Election Civility Statement for the Community
Attachment: 1. Code of Fair Campaign Practices (Division 20, Chapter 5, Elections Code.)

INTRODUCTION

Chair Yousem, Vice Chair Nazarian and Commissioner Ginsburg met with the Human Relations Commission (HRC) liaisons Mayor Krasne and Vice Mayor Delshad on November 30, 2009 to consider an *Election Civility Statement* drafted for the Beverly Hills community.

DISCUSSION

The HRC's current civility initiative started in December, 2007, when the HRC appointed an ad hoc committee to explore ways to foster civility in our community. Working with the City Attorney, it became apparent that *promoting* civility would be challenging due to First Amendment rights. In addition, the municipal election candidates were already required to sign a similar statement, the Code of Fair Campaign Practices, included in the Candidate Information Handbook (see attachment I) prepared by the Office of the City Clerk. The Commission set the issue aside and focused their work on reorganizing priorities and developing a work plan.

More recently, the Commission revisited this concept and approved a civility statement to be sent to the community asking for their support in creating a model of positive civic behavior and teaching our children by example:

The Human Relations Commission of the City of Beverly Hills strives to promote positive human relations in all aspects of community life. We believe that the examination of diverse candidates and challenging issues can be conducted with great civility. While our schools may provide civics education in the classroom, we citizens are obligated to provide our young people with a real life model of positive civic behavior that we teach

by example. We hope that every member of this community will join us as we take a stand in support of an environment where respect and responsible actions prevail in all elections and in every aspect of our community life.

Next, the Commission presented recommendations for dissemination of the Election Civility Statement:


- recommend the statement before City Council for endorsement
- provide copy of statement for all municipal election candidates and their campaign managers to sign in addition to the statement currently in the City Clerk packet that requires their signatures.
- include statement in candidate's packet and/or include in candidate's orientation presentation.
- use of pictures, posters, email and other vehicles to underscore the message of promoting an environment where respect and responsible actions prevail in all aspects of community life
- disseminate statement through a press release to local media and prior to future elections

FISCAL IMPACT

The advertising option for both the Beverly Hills Courier and the Beverly Hills Weekly, depending on the size of the advertisement, is estimated between \$858.00 for a quarter page, \$1,666.50 for a half page, and \$2,966.70 for a full page advertisement. These are costs per election for running just one advertisement in each local newspaper. Running the add two weeks before the election and again just prior to the election would be twice the cost. The City Clerk's Office can add this expense to the election budget for FY 10/11 if it is the Council's desire.

RECOMMENDATION

It is the recommendation of the Human Relations Commission that City Council approve the *Election Civility Statement* and the elements of distribution.

Steve Miller 
Approved By

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

(Division 20, Chapter 5, Elections Code.)

Chapter 5. Fair Campaign Practices

Article 1. General Intent

20400. The Legislature hereby declares that the purpose of this chapter is to encourage every candidate for public office in this state to subscribe to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

It is the ultimate intent of the Legislature that every candidate for public office in this state who subscribes to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices will follow the basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play in order that, after vigorously contested, but fairly conducted campaigns, the citizens of this state may exercise their constitutional right to vote, free from dishonest and unethical practices which tend to prevent the full and free expression of the will of the voters.

The purpose in creating the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is to give voters guidelines in determining fair play and to encourage candidates to discuss issues instead of untruths or distortions.

Article 2. Definitions

20420. As used in this Chapter, "Code" means the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

Article 3. Code of Fair Campaign Practices

20440. At the time an individual is issued his or her declaration of candidacy, nomination papers, or any other paper evidencing an intention to be a candidate for public office, the Elections Official, shall give the individual a blank form of the Code of Fair Campaign Practices and a copy of this chapter. The Elections Official shall inform each candidate for public office that subscription to the code is voluntary.

In the case of a committee making an independent expenditure within the meaning of Section 82031 of the Government Code, the Secretary of State shall provide a blank form and a copy of this chapter to the individual filing, in accordance with Title 9 (commencing with § 81000) of the Government Code, an initial campaign statement on behalf of the committee.

The text of the Code shall read, as follows: (See **"CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES" on reverse side**).

20442. The Elections Official shall accept, at all times prior to the election, all completed forms which are properly subscribed to by a candidate for public office and shall retain them for public inspection until 30 days after the election.

20443. Every code subscribed to by a candidate for public office pursuant to this chapter is a public record open for public inspection.

20444. In no event shall a candidate for public office be required to subscribe to or endorse the code.

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

There are basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play which every candidate for public office in the State of California has a moral obligation to observe and uphold, in order that, after vigorously contested, but fairly conducted campaigns, our citizens may exercise their constitutional right to a free and untrammled choice and the will of the people may be fully and clearly expressed on the issues.

THEREFORE:

(1) **I SHALL CONDUCT** my campaign openly and publicly, discussing the issues as I see them, presenting my record and policies with sincerity and frankness, and criticizing without fear or favor the record and policies of my opponents or political parties which merit such criticism.

(2) **I SHALL NOT USE OR PERMIT** the use of character defamation, whispering campaigns, libel, slander, or scurrilous attacks on any candidate or his or her personal or family life.

(3) **I SHALL NOT USE OR PERMIT** any appeal to negative prejudice based on race, sex, religion, national origin, physical health status, or age.

(4) **I SHALL NOT USE OR PERMIT** any dishonest or unethical practice which tends to corrupt or undermine our American system of free elections, or which hampers or prevents the full and free expression of the will of the voters including acts intended to hinder or prevent any eligible person from registering to vote, enrolling to vote, or voting.

(5) **I SHALL NOT** coerce election help or campaign contributions for myself or for any other candidate from my employees.

(6) **I SHALL IMMEDIATELY AND PUBLICLY REPUDIATE** support deriving from any individual or group which resorts, on behalf of my candidacy or in opposition to that of my opponent, to the methods and tactics which I condemn. I shall accept responsibility to take firm action against any subordinate who violates any provision of this code or the laws governing elections.

(7) **I SHALL DEFEND AND UPHOLD** the right of every qualified American voter to full and equal participation in the electoral process.

I, the undersigned, candidate for election to public office in the State of California or treasurer or chairperson of a committee making any independent expenditures, hereby voluntarily endorse, subscribe to, and solemnly pledge myself to conduct my campaign in accordance with the above principles and practices.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Date of Election

Attachment 2



The Human Relations Commission
of the City of Beverly Hills strives to promote
positive human relations in all aspects of community life.

We believe that the examination of diverse candidates and
challenging issues can be conducted with great civility.

While our schools may provide civics education in the classroom,
we citizens are obligated to provide our young people
with a real life model of positive civic behavior
that we teach by example.

We hope that every member of this community
will join us as we take a stand in support of
an environment where respect and responsible
actions prevail in all elections
and in every aspect of our community life.

Attachment 3

ELECTION CIVILITY STATEMENT

(Adopted by City Council in 2011)

The Human Relations Commission of the City of Beverly Hills strives to promote positive human relations in all aspects of community life. We recognize the significant role of digital media and all online platforms in shaping public discourse. We encourage all community members to engage in online discussion with respect and empathy, fostering an environment where diverse perspectives are valued.

We believe that the examination of diverse candidates and challenging issues can be conducted with great civility, without resorting to personal attacks or the spread of misinformation.-

While our schools may provide civics education in the classroom, we citizens are obligated to provide our young people with a real-life model of positive civic behavior that we teach by example. We emphasize the importance of honesty and integrity in all aspects of civic engagement. Honesty builds trust, and integrity ensures that our community's values are upheld. Together let us exemplify the values of transparency, fairness, and ethical conduct to inspire the next generation of civic leaders.

We hope that every member of this community will join us as we take a stand in support of an environment where respect and responsible actions prevail in all elections and in every aspect of our community life.



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Human Relations Council Liaisons

FROM: Christopher Paulson, Human Services Administrator
Enisha Clark, LCSW, Human Services Outreach Manager
Stephanie Harris, Director of Community Services
Gregory Barton, Fire Chief

DATE: March 27, 2024

SUBJECT: CAGF Process Update

ATTACHMENTS: None

INTRODUCTION

The FY 2024-25 Community Assistance Grant Funding (CAGF) Request for Proposal (RFP) was released on Thursday, January 18, 2024. The application was available online at www.beverlyhills.org/cagf, and applications closed on February 29, 2024. A total of 31 complete applications were received for this application cycle. The sum total of grant requests is \$2,073,499.

This year, staff is recommending a slightly different process, by sorting the organizations into two groups and removing one of those groups from the CAGF process and entering into a traditional agreement to pay for services rendered.

DISCUSSION

On March 29, 2024, the HRC CAGF Ad Hoc (Commissioner Kaiserman and Commissioner Kraushaar) will meet jointly with the Charitable Solicitations Commission (CSC) CAGF Ad Hoc (Chair Lipton and Commissioner Galen). The Joint Ad Hoc will invite any applicant in for an interview if either Ad Hoc committee had any questions about the organization's finances or programmatic proposal. All new applicants will also be invited for an interview. At this meeting, the Joint Ad Hoc will produce a set of recommendations to bring to their respective Commissions.

The HRC Ad Hoc will bring the Joint Ad Hoc's recommendation to the full Human Relations Commission at the April 18, 2024 meeting. The Ad Hoc will receive comments from the Commission and include the HRC-approved recommendations in a joint report to be produced by the Charitable Solicitations and Human Relations Commissions during their April meetings. In May, the Ad Hoc representatives from each commission will present the recommendations to

the City Council Liaisons. In June, staff will present the Council Liaison recommendations to City Council.

A total of 31 complete applications were received for this application cycle. The sum total of grant requests is \$2,073,499.

However, this year, staff is recommending a slightly different process, by sorting the organizations into two groups and removing one of those groups from the CAGF process. The first group of organizations are those that provide crucial services to the community and cannot be replicated by City-staff. Serious unintended consequences may be experienced by residents should services not be made available. The City will enter into contractual agreements for services rendered, based on billable hours for Beverly Hills residents, separately and outside of the CAGF process.

There are five critical service providers that will be moving towards direct contracts with the city, based on services rendered for the upcoming fiscal year. These organizations include Jewish Family Services Los Angeles, Beverly Hills CPR, People Assisting the Homeless (P.A.T.H.), Step Up on Second, and Bet Tzedek. The anticipated total amount to contract with these five organizations for Fiscal Year 24/25 is \$1,065,000.

The next group of organizations, which are the bulk of grantees, are those that provide a General Social Service Program that provides quality of life services to the community that are otherwise not being provided; services are not urgent in nature and no serious consequences are present should services be delayed. This group also contains a few organizations that provide Cultural Arts Programs. This is the group that will participate in the CAGF process.

Some additional criteria and metrics that will be requested through the application process and in the quarterly reporting will be a focus on direct referrals for services from Beverly Hills residents or Beverly Hills staff, to ensure these grants benefit the Beverly Hills community.

Therefore, the tentative General Fund allocation for CAGF FY 24/25 is \$1,112,500. This value is obtained by starting with the current FY23/24 CAGF budget of \$2,177,500 and subtracting the anticipated amount to directly contract with the five organizations mentioned above, \$1,065,00, leaving \$1,112,500 available for CAGF recipients.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council Liaisons review and support the updates to the CAGF process, and budget of \$1,112,500.