

ACTION CALENDAR
December 12, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Laurie Capitelli
Councilmember Betty Olds

Subject: Clarification on Term Limits for Commissioners

RECOMMENDATION

Amend Section 3.02 of the Berkeley Municipal Code to 1. limit an individual's service on any single commission to eight years in any ten year period, and 2. limit commission service to one commission at a time.

BACKGROUND

Section 3.02.40 of the BMC includes specific term limits for commissioners --“no more than eight consecutive years” -- in order to allow for greater and more diverse public participation. This regulation can be (and has been) circumvented by commissioners who resign from a commission for a short period before their eight-year tenure, and then secure another full term appointment to that same commission.

Public participation and diversity of input is also limited by citizens serving on more than one commission simultaneously.

These amendments will clarify the intent of the original term limits, and provide for easier regulation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Laurie Capitelli, District 5 981-7150
Councilmember Betty Olds, District 6 981-7160

