

ORDINANCE 23-8

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO ADDING SECTION 2.16.030 TO CHAPTER 2 OF THE WEST SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL CODE

The City Council of the City of West Sacramento does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Purpose and Authority. The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend Chapter 2 of the West Sacramento Municipal Code to add a provision establishing principals of governance.

Section 2. Additions. The following sections of the West Sacramento Municipal Code are hereby added to read as follows:

2.16.030 General Principles of Governance

The West Sacramento voted to transition to district-based elections in 2022 in order to assure that communities of interest throughout the City have the opportunity to elect their candidates of choice. While this change will bring a renewed focus on neighborhood priorities, it is not intended to fundamentally alter the City's long-standing commitment to strategic governance that focuses on the good of all West Sacramentans, or to the Council-Manager form of government and related best management practices. This section outlines key governance principles that the Council intends to continue going forward.

A. One City Principle

The One City Principle is that West Sacramento's strength lies in its unity. While acknowledging and serving the diverse needs of individual communities, Councilmembers will govern strategically, in the interests of all West Sacramento residents, regardless of the district from which they were elected.

1. Council districts are a construct that relates solely to the City's Council elections process. City Council members are elected by district to serve the entire community.
2. Any resident can submit a concern to any Councilmember, without regard to the district that elected that Councilmember.
3. Councilmembers will serve their constituents in a manner that promotes unity, and avoid language or actions that foster divisions or rivalries between residents and elected officials in different Council districts.

B. Council-Manager Form of Government

1. The City of West Sacramento operates under the Council-Manager form of government, which means that the City Manager is responsible for administering the policies that are promulgated by the City Council, as opposed to individual Council members.
2. Historic practices regarding inviting all Councilmembers to community events throughout the City shall continue as a means of reinforcing connections between Councilmembers and the entire community.
3. Resource allocation decisions, appointments, policy changes, or other City actions that historically would have required direction from the Council will still be

approved by the entire Council, even if they primarily affect only one district.

4. The City’s operations and capital budgets shall continue to be allocated on a line item and/or project basis for expenditure city-wide based on Council priorities and shall not be allocated on a district basis for budgeting by individual Council members.

5. All City-related interactions with other local jurisdictions, state and federal executive branch agencies, and state and federal elected officials will be coordinated through the City Manager’s Office and will focus whenever possible on the interests of the City as a whole, rather than those of any single district.

6. Budget requests must demonstrate relevance to the City Council’s strategic plan.

Section 3. Severability. If any provision of this chapter, or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the remainder of this chapter, to the extent it can be given effect, or the application of those provisions to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby, and to this end the provisions of this chapter are severable.

Section 4. Effective Date and Publication. This ordinance shall take effect 30 days after its adoption, and pursuant to Resolution 99-46 was published in summary format prior to adoption, and a summary will be published within 15 days after adoption in a paper of general circulation published and circulated within the City of West Sacramento.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of West Sacramento this 18th day of October, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Alcalá, Early, Sulpizio Hull, Orozco.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: Guerrero.
ABSTAIN: None.

DocuSigned by:
Martha Guerrero
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Martha Guerrero, Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Jennifer Cusmir
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Jennifer Cusmir, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

DocuSigned by:
Jeffrey Mitchell
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Jeffrey Mitchell, City Attorney

CODIFY X UNCODIFY _____