



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS REPORT

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: DAN KALMICK, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

SUBJECT: CONDUCTING NEIGHBORHOOD-FOCUSED TOWN HALLS

It is important that the City engage in meaningful community engagement efforts, to ensure that residents are informed about policy decisions being considered and made in Huntington Beach. Currently, the City has implemented community engagement efforts through traditional mechanisms and various new strategies during the past year.

One such mechanism that has been deployed consistently in the City has been the use of focused neighborhood town hall discussions. To date, we provide discussion formats for the Southeast Area and Sunset Beach areas of town on a regular basis, but not for other locations in Huntington Beach.

To address that particular issue, I am recommending that the City conduct either bi-annual or quarterly neighborhood-focused town hall discussions for all geographic locations in the City, in order to better connect with our residents, understand issues affecting specific neighborhoods, and communicate the latest information and news from the City. If approved, such an effort will allow the City to be more proactive in its community engagement efforts by meeting residents where they live.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

I recommend that the City Council direct the City Manager to develop a neighborhood-focused town hall program for all geographic parts of Huntington Beach to be deployed later this year.