

Public Ethics

- Open Meeting Laws
- Financial Conflicts of Interest
 - § Political Reform Act
 - § Contracts – Gov't Code Sec. 1090
- Due Process and Fair Hearing

Ralph M. Brown Act

- What is a “meeting”?
- No discussion or action, except on agenda
- Closed sessions
- Remedies and penalties

Meeting

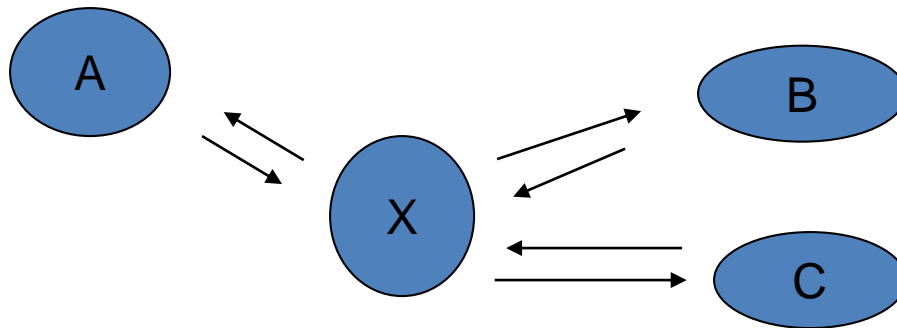
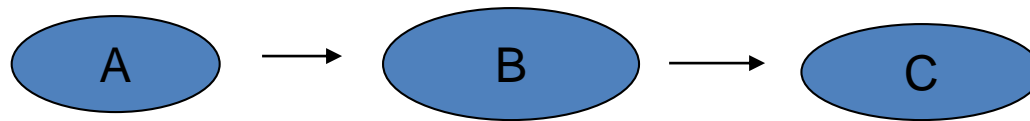
When a quorum...

- Hears
- Discusses
- Deliberates
- Takes action

...on something within the City's subject matter.

Serial Meetings

Chain - Spoke



Transparency Laws

The Ralph M. Brown Act

Exclusion

Separate conversations with an employee . . . to answer questions or provide information “if that person does not communicate to the members of the legislative body the comments or positions of any other member or members of the legislative body.”

Agenda

- Must include public forum
 - § Council may only refer to staff or respond briefly
- A member of the public has the right to speak
 - § At a regular meeting: on each and every agenda items and generally on item of public interest Including consent calendar and closed session items
 - § At a special meeting: on each agenda item only
 - § Before or during the Council's consideration
- No discussion or action, except on agenda
 - Late-breaking exception

Political Reform Act

- Campaign and committees
- Disclose
- Disqualify

Due Process and Fair Hearing

- Avoid pre-decisional bias