Meeting Date: 3-21-06

AGENDA REPORT

City of Santa Clara, California

Agenda Item # 10.B.1

Santa Clara All-America City 2001

DATE: March 17, 2006

TO: Mayor and Council for Action

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: *Written Petition* Gary Niblock Request for Study Session RE: Binding Arbitration for Public Safety (Police & Fire Only)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City Clerk's Office received the attached written petition submitted by Gary Niblock on behalf of the two public safety unions, Police Officers Association (POA) and the City of Santa Clara Firefighter (IAFF) Local 1171 (Firefighters Union) seeking Council's approval to place a City ballot measure for the November 2006 election addressing impartial (binding) arbitration for police and fire employees.

The City Clerk has informed me that the following Council schedule has been suggested in his discussions with the petitioners:

March 21, 2006	Submit Written Petition to set date for discussion of proposal.
April 11, 2006	Schedule date for Council discussion; No action proposed.
April 25, 2006	Council Action Item on Proposal: Council would make decision whether ballot measure on binding arbitration would be submitted to the voters.

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF ISSUE:

The advantage to set the dates as being requested would allow opportunity for public comment on this important topic which proposes significant changes to the Charter of the City of Santa Clara.

ECONOMIC/FISCAL IMPACT:

To set the dates for discussion and action would not have a fiscal impact. If a decision was made to place this topic on the ballot, costs would be incurred.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the following dates be set for Council to hold discussion on the written petition submitted by Gary Niblock on behalf of the two public safety unions, Police Officers Association (POA) and the City of Santa Clara Firefighter (IAFF) Local 1171 (Firefighters Union) proposing to place a City ballot measure for the November 2006 election addressing binding arbitration for police and fire unions: April 11, 2006 discussion of the request to set a ballot measure with no action by the Council on the proposal; and April 25, 2006 Council action to approve or disapprove the requested ballot measure for the November 2006 election addressing binding arbitration.

Jennifer Sparacino

Jennifer Sparacino
City Manager

Documents Related to this Report:
1) Written Petition Submitted by Gary Niblock

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