

Summary of Substantive Changes to the Ethics and Municipal Campaign Finance Codes

2013 Ethics Code and Campaign Finance Code	Proposed 2017 Ethics Code and Campaign Finance Code Amendments
Currently gifts and meals are limited at \$50 per occurrence with \$500 aggregate annual maximum in a single calendar year from a single source. Entertainment is not permitted at any amount.	Add the gift of entertainment with existing gift limitations Section 2-45
No provisions for self-reporting of potential violations	Add self-reporting option of potential violation after occurrence Provide for ERB option to review for past action of City officials or employees. Section 2-54
Ethics complaints shall be reported to: a) The Compliance Auditor or his or her designee; b) The Ethics Review Board; or c) The City Attorney's Office.	Remove option to report violations to the Office of the City Attorney in order to honor the attorney-client confidentiality privilege. Section 2-54
Copies of filed complaints shall be forwarded by the City Clerk to the Compliance Auditor and City Attorney's Office. The Compliance Auditor shall review the complaint for compliance with the filing requirements. The ERB currently receives complaints only if the Compliance Auditor determines complaint meets the requirements set forth in the Code.	Amend Code to require that Chair and Vice-chair of the ERB receive all complaints. Then Chair and Vice Chair of ERB, Compliance Auditor and City Attorney's Office shall each independently review the complaint for compliance with the filing requirements Section 2-83
City Clerk is not currently permitted to forward a complaint to the respondent (the one being complained about).	The City Clerk shall notify the respondent(s) of a complaint filed. This notification is for information purposes only. The City Clerk shall notify the respondent(s) of the resolution of a complaint. Section 2-83
There are no code provisions for a waiver of violations of the Ethics or Municipal Campaign Finance Code. Council may waive provisions of adopted codes as they are ordinances, Council-created, and self-imposed laws.	Any City Official or employee or person subject to the Ethics Code or Municipal Campaign Finance Code who believes they have unknowingly committed an act in violation of a provision of this Ethics Code or the Municipal Campaign Finance Code may submit a sworn request for a waiver of the application of either code for that past act. The Ethics Review Board shall investigate and make known its findings, and make any relevant recommendations to the City Council concerning the issue.

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	<p>The City Council may only act to waive the application of either code following receipt of the recommendation of the Ethics Review Board.</p> <p>The Ethics Review Board is authorized to impose the sanctions contained within this code when making their ruling.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Section 2-88</p>
<p>Candidate campaign finance reports are required to be filed <u>semi-annually</u> and 30 days, 8 days, and 3 days before an election date.</p>	<p>Require candidate campaign finance reports to be filed <u>quarterly</u> and 30 days and 8 days before an election date.</p> <p>The 3 day campaign finance report would no longer be required.</p> <p>Therefore, in non-election years, reports would be due on the 15th of Jan, April, July, and Oct. In election years, reports are due the 15th of Jan, July, Oct, and 30 days and 8 days before the May election date.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Section 2-307</p>
<p>For high-profile discretionary contracts, any <u>owner or officer</u> of an entity seeking a high-profile contract is prohibited from making contributions.</p> <p>The <u>spouses</u> of any person not allowed to make contributions are also prohibited from making contributions.</p>	<p>Expand Code to also prohibit any <u>officer of board, and executive committee member</u> of an entity seeking a high-profile contract from making contributions.</p> <p>Also adding Subcontractors hired or retained to provide services under the high-profile contract; and</p> <p>Any <u>first-degree member of the household</u> of any person not allowed to make contributions to also be prohibited from making contributions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Section 2-309</p>
<p>When an individual or entity applies for a zoning change, the following shall not make a political contribution:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Any individual applying for a zoning change; (2) Any owner or officer of an entity applying for a zoning change; or (3) The spouse of an individual listed in items (1) or (2) of this subsection. 	<p>Amendment adds the following to the list of prohibited contributors:</p> <p>Any property owner, attorney, lobbyist or consultant hired or retained to assist the individual or entity in seeking a zoning change.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Section 2-309</p>