

San Francisco

The comments I got from SF Planning staff include: "The terms have always been staggered. The Mayor nominates 4, but in an election year a new mayor only has 2 of the 4 to appoint. The president of the Board of Supervisors nominates 3. All nominations must be confirmed by the majority of the Board." When I asked her reaction to terms concurrent with Council members, her reaction was "Not a good thing. Makes it political. No consistency."

Huntington Beach

"HB Planning Commission has 7 members, City Council also 7 members. Each Council member has an appointment and they are concurrent with council terms. City has had concurrent terms for a long time and it has not been a problem. Four terms expire this year and three terms expire in 2008. However, there have been other organizational concerns, which the Commission is addressing by adopting by-laws, protocols and rules."

San Mateo County Cities

City 1

"Oh no. I see a problem with making the terms concurrent with individual Council members. The Planning Commission would become too political. I have been at 5 cities in northern California and none have had concurrent terms. All 5 have followed the same process of having the full Council interview all commissioner candidates and vote on who to appoint. Councilmembers do not nominate individuals which are subsequently confirmed by the full council."

City 2

"Council members and commissioners are not linked. Planning commissioners are selected as at large representatives, not appointed by a particular Council member. Believe they have an advantage to having no direct relationship, because commissioners seem to be slightly more independent and not concerned with the results of an election. He had worked in Santa Clara County where the Commissioners were directly linked to appointees and it politicized the Commission".

City 3

"Five members of Planning Commission. Appointed by City Council for four year term, max two terms. Not coterminous with Council terms. I've worked in eight communities, four being bay area cities and I am not aware of any planning commissions that have terms coterminous with the terms of the City Council. I could see some obvious political ramifications. A pitfall could be-what if a Council member left mid-term, would the commissioner be expected to step down."

City 4

"Seven Commissioners. The full council interviews those willing to serve and selects new members as a group. Terms do not match, are not concurrent with Councilmembers."

City 5

"Five Commissioners. Four year terms, staggered, not concurrent with Council. Commissioners selected as a whole."

City 6

"Five Commissioners. Four year terms, max two terms. All appointed as at large, interviewed and voted on by entire Council. Staggered terms, not consistent with Council terms."

City 7

"All Commissions mirror the size of the Council by being five members. Planning commissioners, as are all commissioners, are selected by the entire Council by written ballot, at a public meeting, after the Council has interviewed all candidates. The ballots are open to public review if requested. Commissioners serve a 4 year term with a max of two terms. None have terms concurrent with Council members."

City 8

"Five members, three year terms. Not concurrent with Council. Each Council member nominates a commissioner. Must be confirmed by full Council. Planning Commission is advisory only. All permits go to the City Council for approval."

SAN MATEO COUNTY CITIES' PLANNING COMMISSIONS

City	Population 1/1/05	# of Planning Commissioners	Terms (years)	Contact	Additional Information (see City attachment)
Atherton	7,256	5	4	752-0500	Not concurrent, all selected at large
Belmont	25,470	7	3	595-7413	Not concurrent, all selected at large
Brisbane	3,724	5	4	415-508-2100	Not concurrent, all at large, No code attached
Burlingame	28,280	7	4	558-7203	Don't appear concurrent
Colma	1,567	5-Council	4	997-8300	No Planning Comm.; 5 councilmembers act on planning issues. No code attached
Daly City	104,661	5	3	991-8000	Not concurrent, CM nominates PC Advisory-all business goes to Council
East Palo Alto	32,202	7 (1 alt)	4 (1-alt)	853-3100	Don't appear concurrent, 1 alternate member serves 1 year
Foster City	29,876	5	4	286-3200	Not concurrent, all selected at large
Half Moon Bay	12,688	7	4	726-8250	
Hillsborough	10,983	5	3	375-7400	Code states: One or more alternate may be appointed
Menlo Park	30,648	7	4	330-6600	Don't appear concurrent
Millbrae	20,708	5	4	259-2334	Don't appear concurrent
Pacifica	38,678	7	4	738-7300	Not concurrent, all selected at large
Portola Valley	4,538	5	4	851-1701	No code attached
Redwood City	75,986	7	3	780-7000	Don't appear concurrent
San Bruno	42,215	7	7	616-7056	Don't appear concurrent
San Carlos	28,190	5	4	802-4100	Not concurrent, all at large Commission size reduced 6/1/94. See attachment re: reduction process
San Mateo	94,212	5	4	552-7049	Not concurrent, all selected at large
So. San Francisco	61,661	7	4	877-8500	No code attached
Woodside	5,496	7	4	861-6790	