

Memo

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Larry Agran, Councilmember
(A second is needed)
Date: July 19, 2021
Re: Request to add agenda item to discuss the "Rule of Two" on the August 10, 2021
Irvine City Council meeting agenda

For 48 years, beginning with the first Irvine City Council meeting in 1971, individual City Councilmembers, on their own initiative, have been free to place items of municipal concern on City Council meeting agendas for Councilmembers and the entire Irvine community to consider. But for the past two years, a Council-adopted "Rule of Two" has been in effect in Irvine. This rule requires a second Councilmember (or the Mayor) to sign-on before an item can be placed on the agenda. I don't know whose interests this Rule of Two was intended to serve. But I do know that it is now operating to hurt our municipal democracy. Most important, it is hurting the Irvine citizens we are sworn to represent. Mindful of this ongoing harm, and mindful that I am obligated, ironically, to request a second signature to agendize an item to abolish the unpopular, undemocratic Rule of Two, I hereby do so.

I would appreciate a second signature in response to this request. Thank you for your consideration.

cc: Interim City Manager
City Clerk
City Attorney