

Larry Ames, July 22, 2015

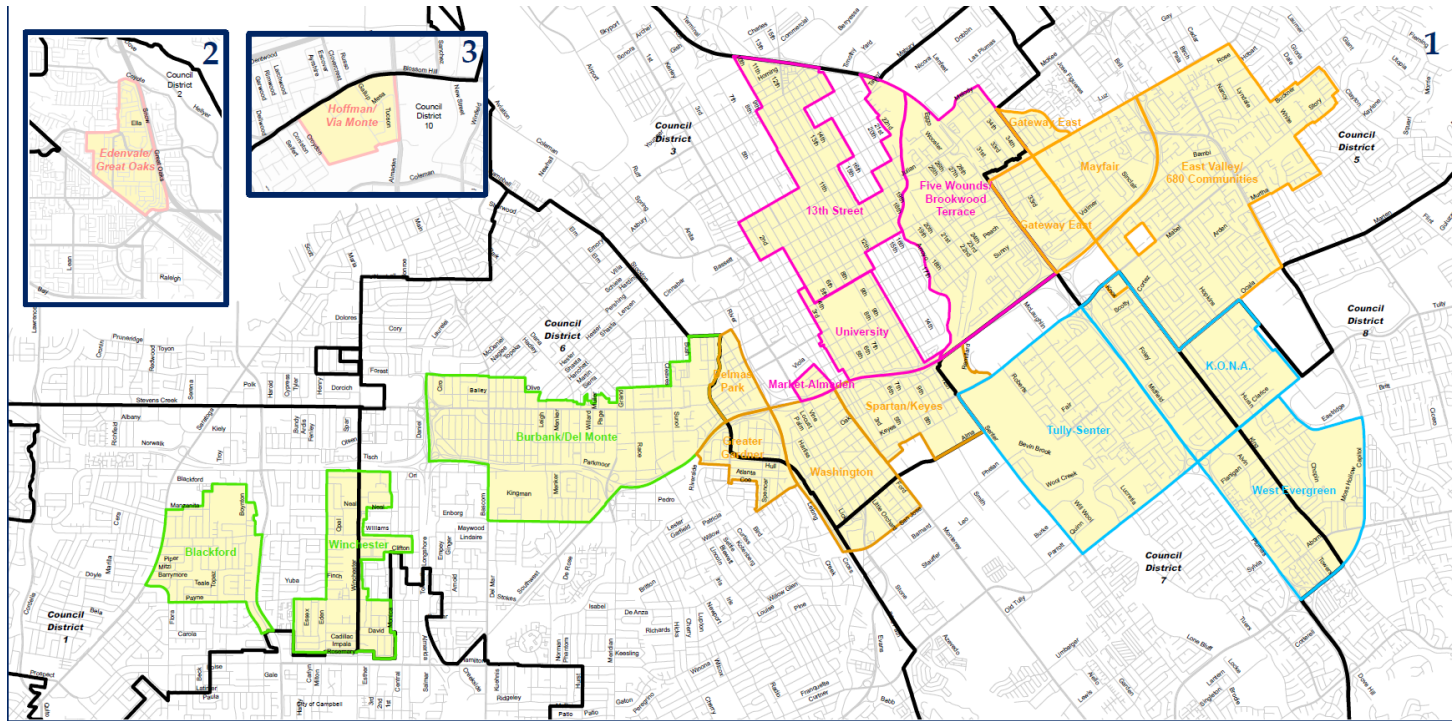
San José

Neighborhoods Commission

Purpose of Nghbrhds Commission

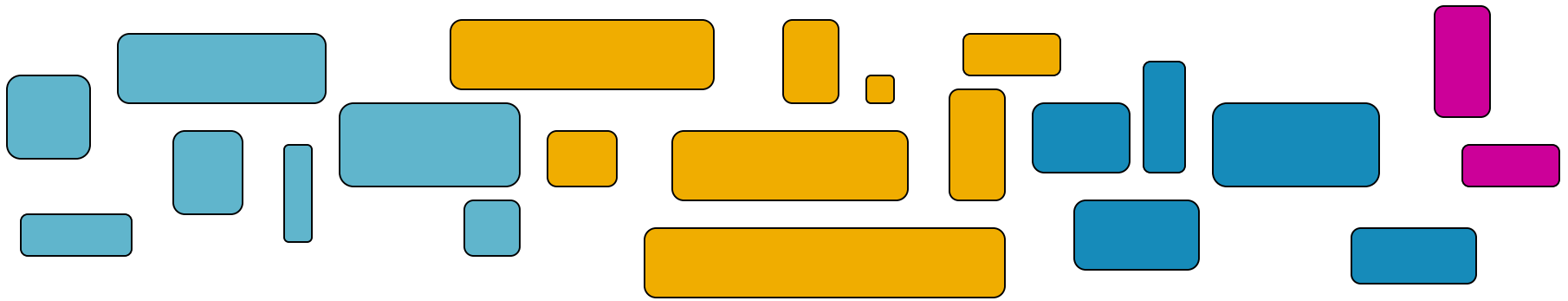
- “The Neighborhoods Commission shall integrate the voice of neighborhoods into the City’s decision-making processes”
- “The Neighborhoods Commission is advisory to the City Council regarding San José neighborhoods.”
 - Study issues, courses of action, policies and programs that affect neighborhood quality of life
 - Make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council; also work with City Manager
- Empower the neighborhoods

History



- 2002: Strong Neighborhood Initiative (SNI) to assist ~1/3rd of city
- 2007 (→'08): SNI Project Advisory Committee (PAC) "sunsetted".
To continue community/City dialog & involve whole city, City establishes Nghbrhd Com'sn
- "Pilot Program": Caucuses in mid 2008; 1 year delay in seating; First meeting in July 2009.
- 2-year "Trial Program" ended & extended several times; made permanent Oct 2013
- summer 2014: caucuses for odd-numbered districts
- Aug 2014: first meeting of reconstructed Neighborhoods Commission

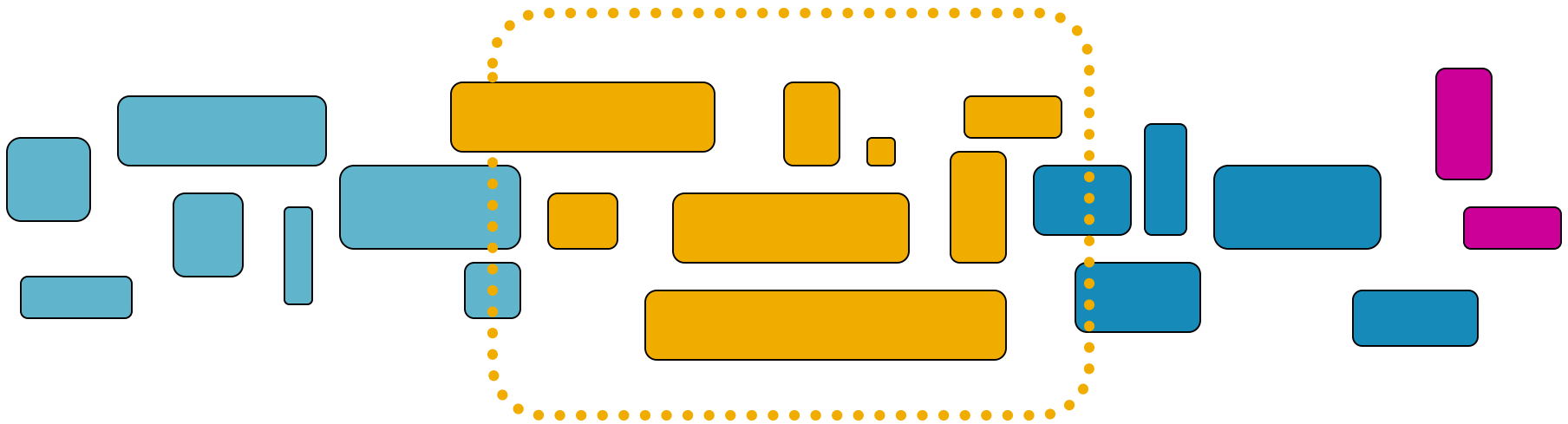
Relationship to DxNLG, UNSCC, ...



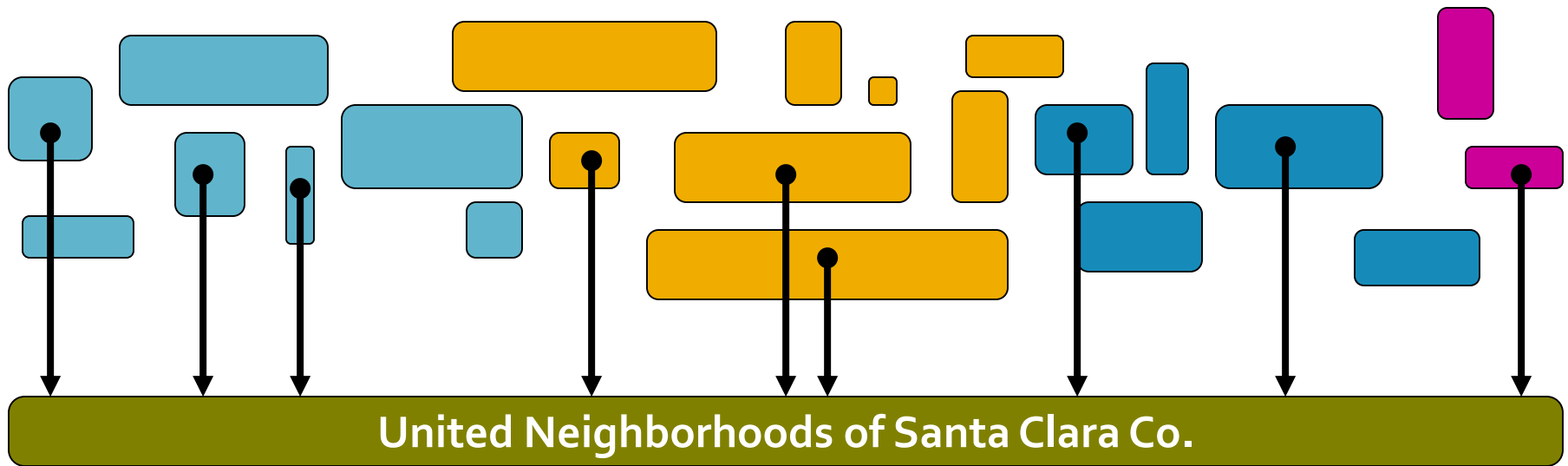
neighborhood groups, large and small, across the city

Relationship to DxNLG, UNSCC, ...

groups within a district can meet to discuss regional issues (e.g., in-fill and stadium for D6NLG), and to informally share ideas



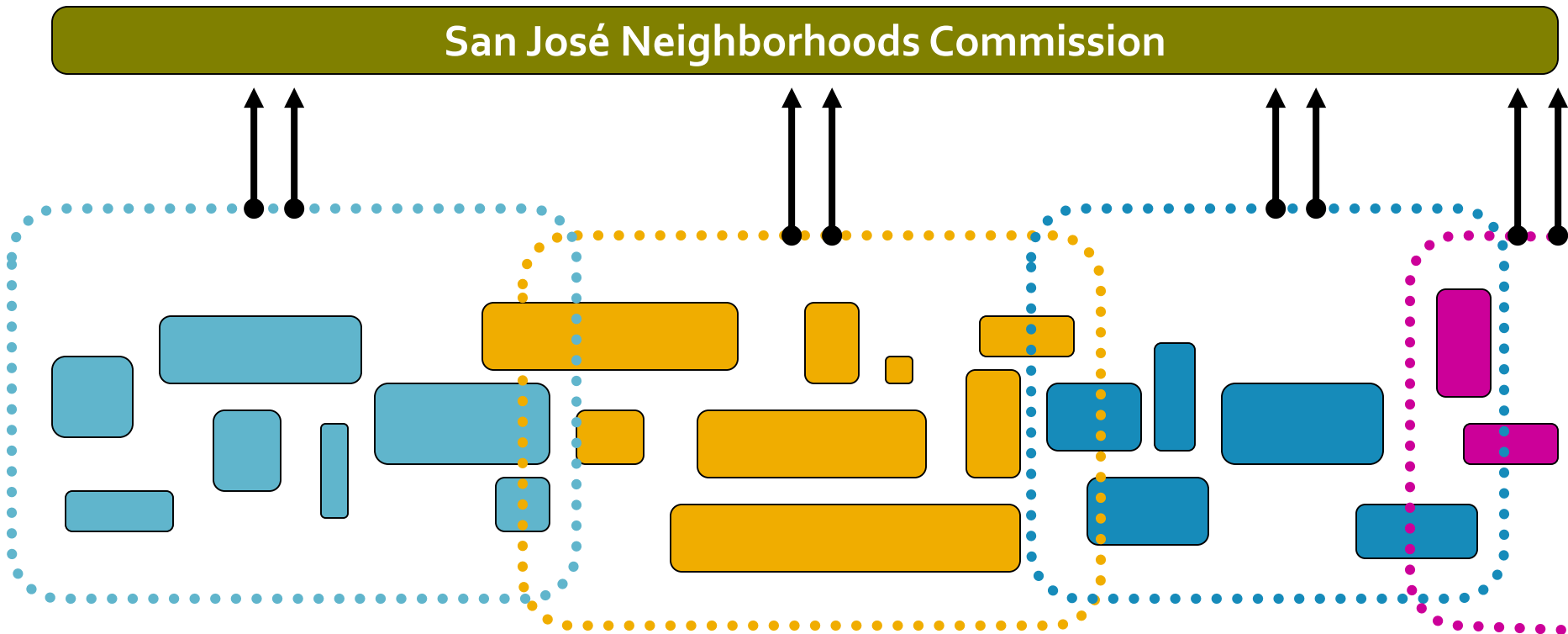
Relationship to DxNLG, UNSCC, ...



United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara Co.

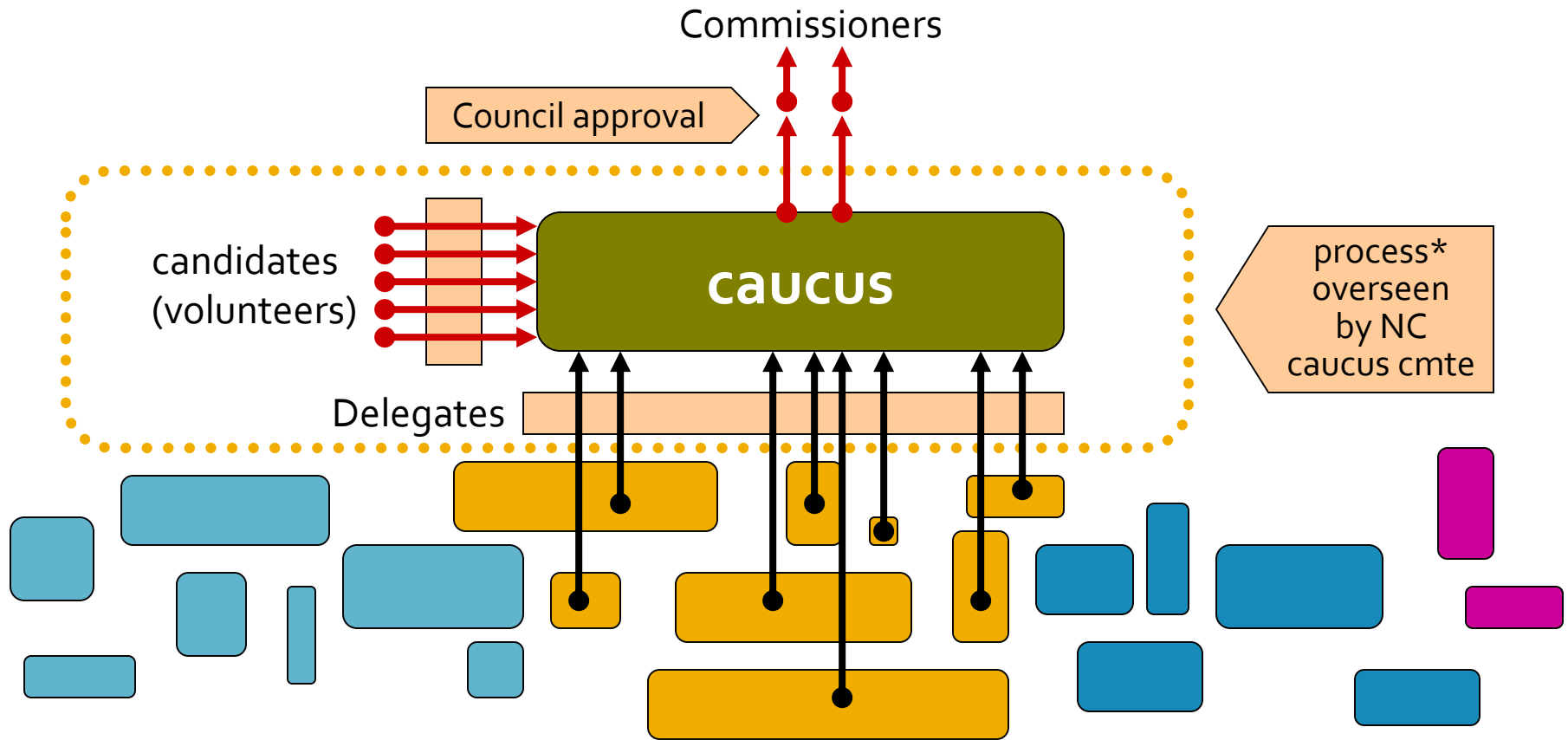
groups from across the County may participate in UNSCC to learn techniques and share insurance & 501(c)3 funding

Relationship to DxNLG, UNSCC, ...



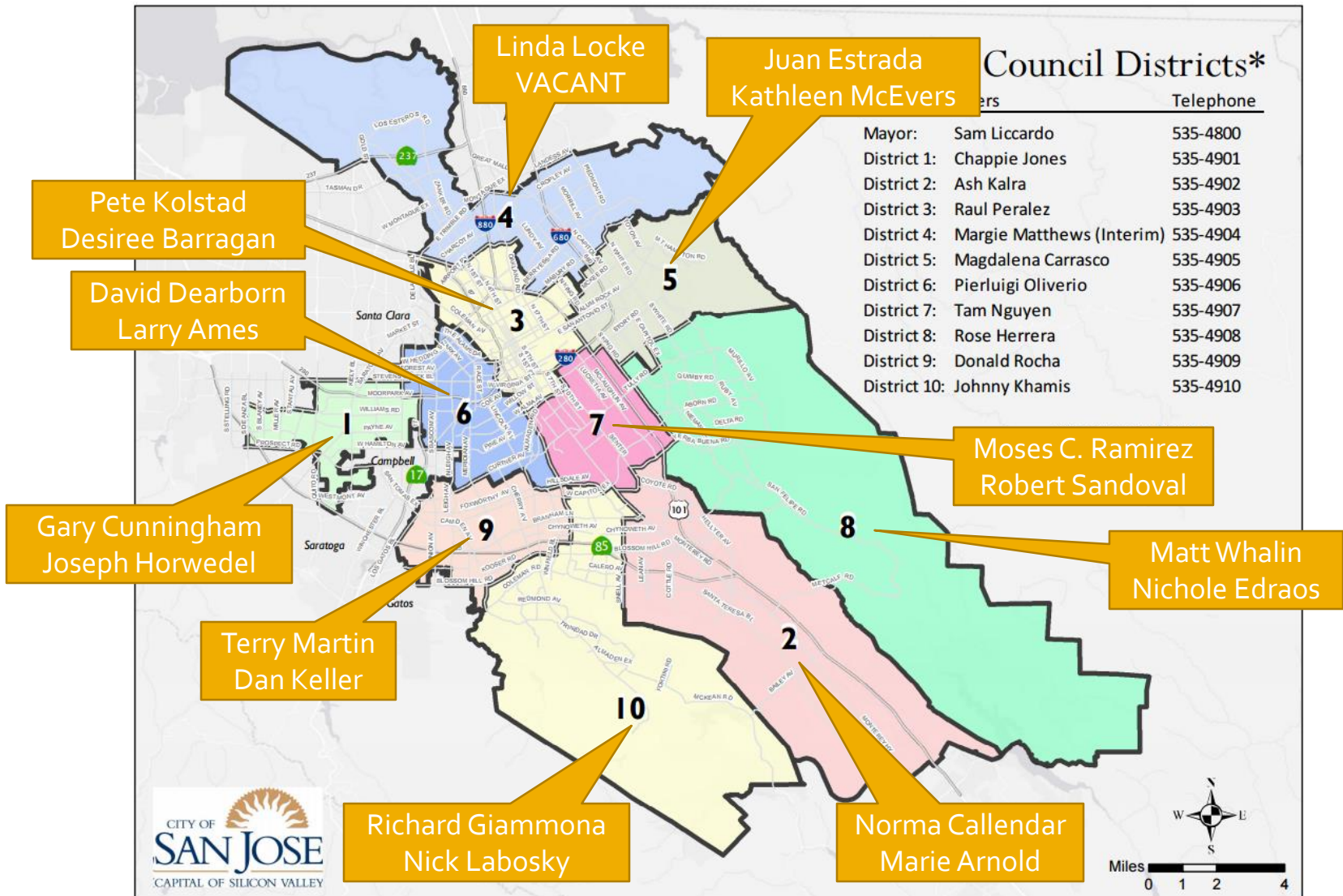
the community selects 2 residents to officially represent all the neighborhoods within the district on neighborhood issues of citywide import

Caucus Process

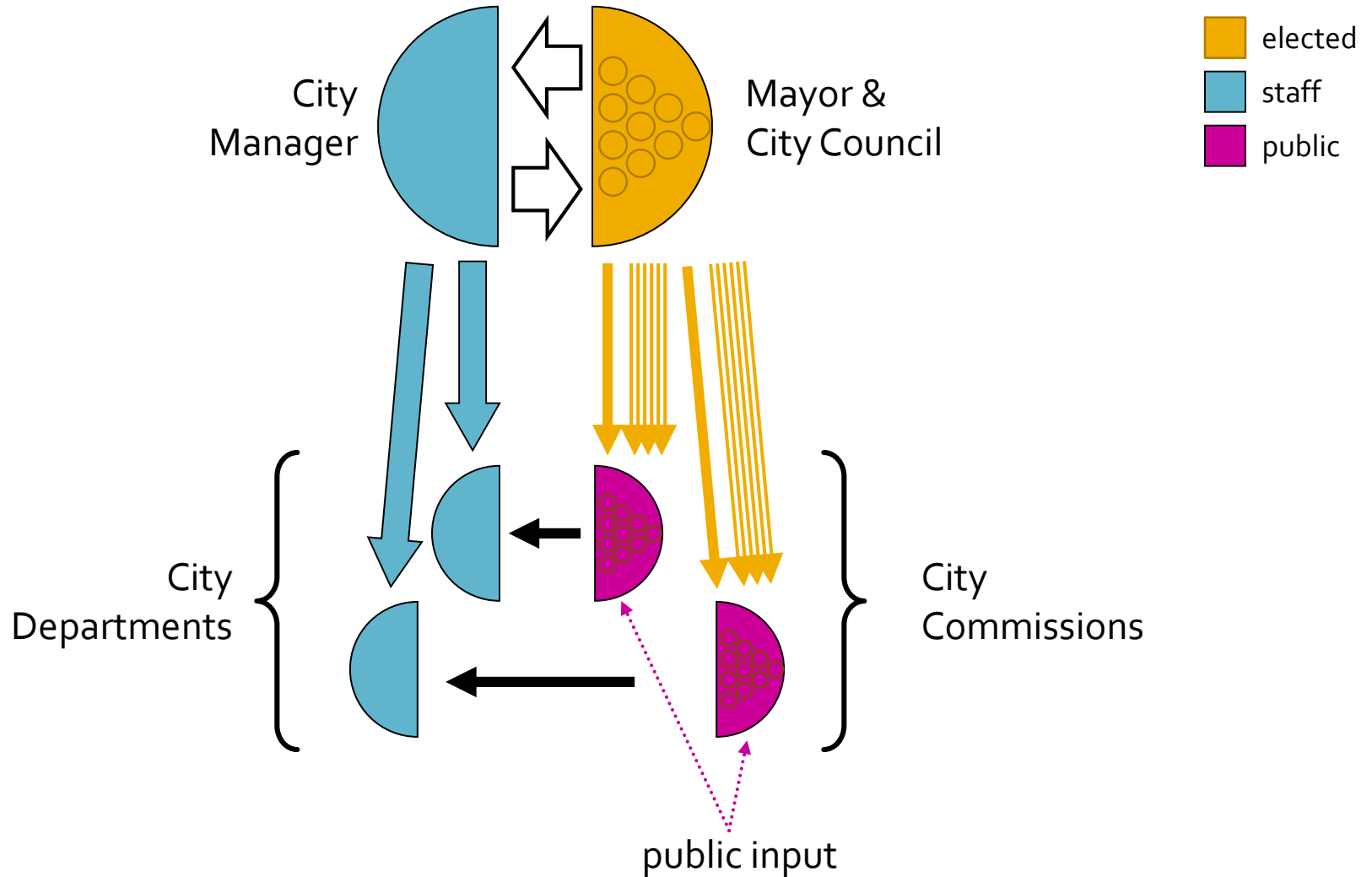


* In case of mid-term vacancies, the Councilmember of that district appoints a replacement from a pool of qualified candidates.

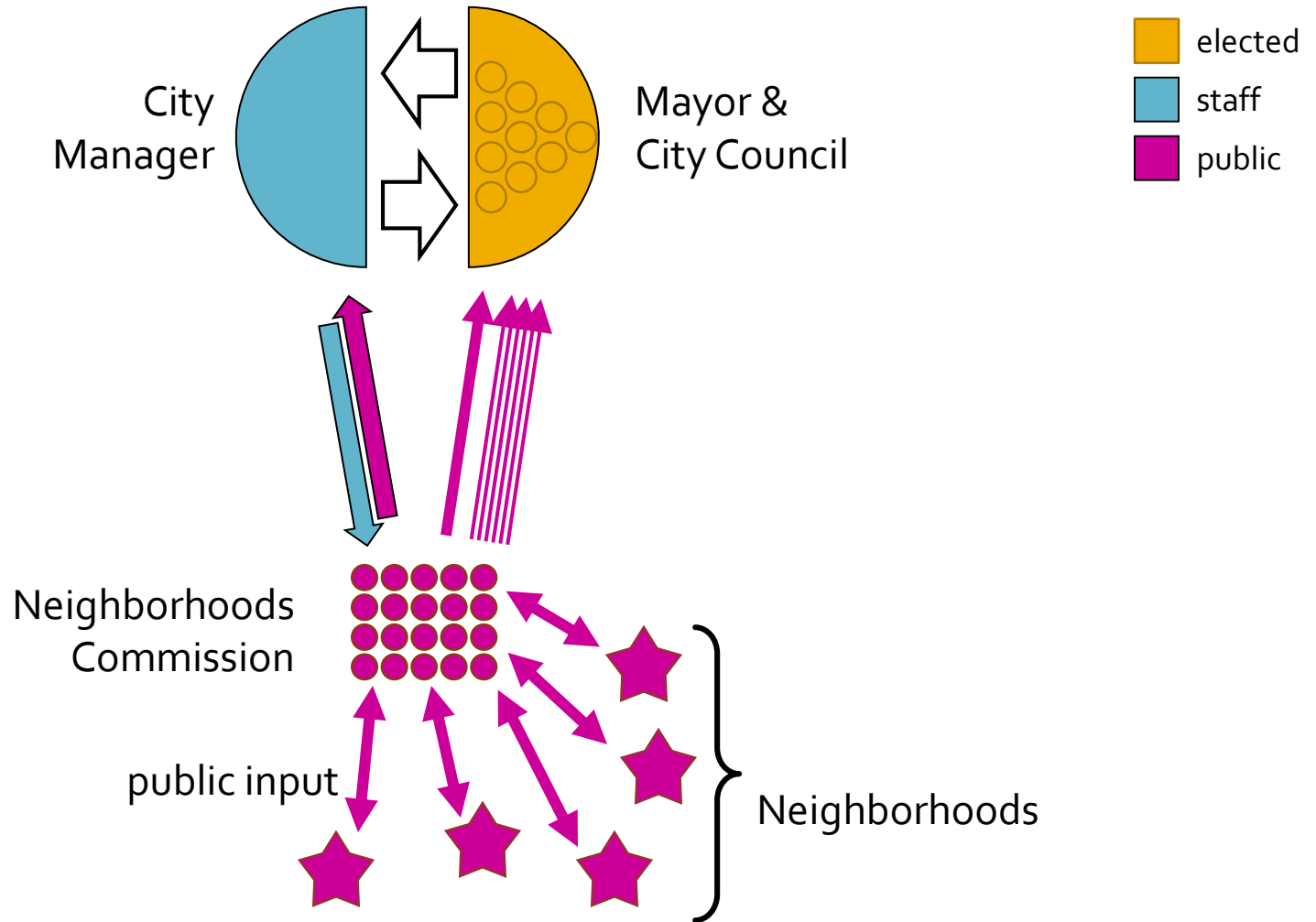
Commissioners



Standard Relationship to City



Nghbrhd Com'sn Relationship to City



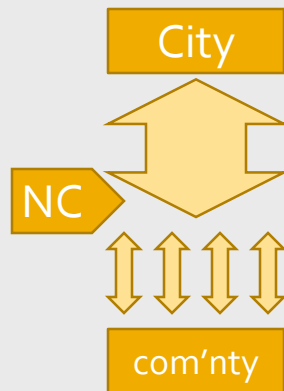
Types of Nghbrhd Cmsn Involvement



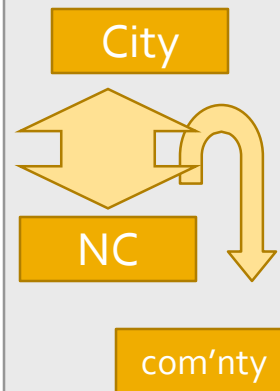
Disseminate:
get info from City and share with the community



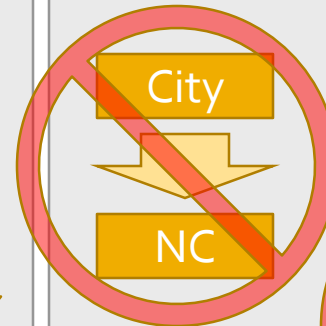
Collect:
get info from the community and share with City



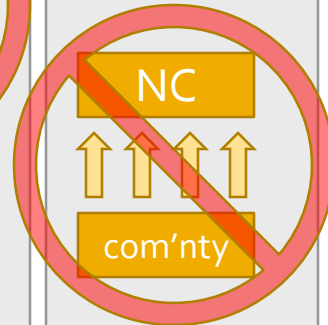
Facilitate:
arrange for City and community to exchange info



Focus group:
City can get feedback from NC so as to have better presentation for community




Checked Box:
City claims it consulted the community because it talked to NC



Diversion:
City appeases the public by having the community meet with NC

2014-15 Accomplishments

- Addressed “City Policy 0-4” on Commissions
- VTA & involvement of community in planning (e.g., Alum Rock Station)
- Unmanned Aerial System (UAS, aka “Drones”)
- Budget 
- Illegal Fireworks



2015-16 Work Plan

- Work Plan is still a work in progress
- Have collected input from:
 - Commissioners
 - Council – the “top 10”
- Ad hoc cmte is making recommendations
- Commission will discuss at August mtg.
 - Add’l community input – to your Cmsnr or at mtg.
- Will go to Council Cmte for approval
- Most likely that some portions over the year may be “overtaken by events”

Categories

- Budget
- Code Enforcement
- Community Engagement
- Public Safety
- Transportation
- Housekeeping

- (Not required to do one topic per category)

Work Plan – possible topics

- Oversee the Commissioner-selection caucus process
 - up this year: selection of Commissioners for even-numbered districts
- City Budget
- Police: recommendations on Body Cameras?
- Document NC process on decision-making
 - Method & form for input to Commission
 - Method & form for output from Commission
- Communication & Outreach
 - connecting Community and the City

Contact Information

- Meetings are open to the public:
Check www.SanJoseCA.gov website for
agendas & schedules
 - Commission meetings are generally held on the
2nd Wed. (exc. July & Dec.), at 6:30 PM,
in City Hall, Wing Rooms 118 and 119.
 - Informal notes & other materials on website:
www.NeighborhoodsCommission.com/
- NC Chair: Larry Ames: LAmes@aol.com

Question or comments?

Work Plan – last year

- Develop, review, submit 2014-15 WP: Aug - Sept 2014
- Develop, review, submit 2015-16 WP: April 2015
- Code Enforcement:
 - Nghbrhd cleanup / Blight mitigation: Jan/Feb
 - Illegal fireworks: May Public Safety:
 - Nghbrhd Safety: Nghbrhd Watch (signage? live video? networking?). Incl. Homelessness and Community Policing: Feb/Mar.
- Transportation:
 - Bike/ped safety: work w/ DOT. (Topic is at the request of DOT). Oct?
- Community Engagement:
 - promote & share best practices w/in & between nghbrhds & districts
- Budget:
 - annual process, similar to past years. Oct/Nov.
 - Annual Report: draft & submit report to Council: Apr/May