

# BY-LAWS

## Council of Hillsborough County Governments

### Article 1. Name.

Council of Hillsborough County Governments (COG)

### Article 11. Purpose

1. This COG has been established pursuant to the provisions of Section 163.02, Florida Statutes and shall have the power to:
  - a. Study such area governmental problems as it deems appropriate, including but not limited to matters affecting health, safety, welfare, education, economic conditions, and area development;
  - b. Promote cooperative arrangements and coordinate action among its members; and,
  - c. Make recommendations for review and action to the members and other public agencies that perform local functions and services within the county.
2. As provided in paragraph 1, the powers of said COG with respect to the parties of the agreement shall be advisory only. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting in any manner the powers of any of the respective parties to initiate and execute any of the powers and duties incumbent to them as provided for by special or general law.

### Article III. Membership

1. The designated representative in all cases must be an elected official of the government body. Each city shall be represented by two members of its Council or Commission as selected by that body. The County shall be represented by two County Commissioners as selected by the Board of County Commissioners. The School District shall be represented by two members of the School Board as selected by the School Board.
2. Any city which may hereafter be incorporated within the boundaries of Hillsborough County and which may desire to participate in the activities of the COG may do so by executing the COG agreement without prior approval or ratification of the named parties to the COG agreement and shall thereafter be bound by all of the terms and

As amended ~~11/16/98~~ 02/05/01

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provisions of the COG agreement as of the date of execution.

3. Any member government may, at any time, withdraw from the COG upon sixty (60) days notice subsequent to the enactment of either a resolution or an ordinance by its governing body, upon recommendation of its chief executive officer where applicable.

## Article IV. Meetings.

1. Meetings: Meetings shall be held at least once a year, and whenever called by the chairman at the request of two members of the COG.
2. Special Meetings: Special meetings of the COG shall be called by the Chairman whenever deemed necessary.
3. Agenda for meetings: The Chairman will place items on the agenda of any COG meeting at the request of any COG member or member government body.

## Article V. Officers.

1. The officers of COG shall be:
  - a. Chairman
  - b. Vice-Chairman
2. Duties:
  - a. Chairman. It shall be the duty of the chairman to preside at any meeting of the COG and to perform other duties as outlined in the by-laws and directed by the COG.
  - b. Vice-Chairman. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chairman to preside at meetings of the COG in the absence of the Chairman and to perform other duties as directed by the COG.
  - c. Staff Liaison. A staff member appointed by the Hillsborough County Administrator will send out the agenda, minutes, and notices of meetings of the COG, and assist the COG in other duties as requested by the Chairman.
  - d.
3. Election of Officers

- a. The officers shall be elected at the annual COG meeting.
4. Vacancies:
- a. Chairman - a vacancy in the office of Chairman shall be filled by the Vice-Chairman.
  - b. Other officers - a vacancy in an office other than Chairman shall be filled by an election.

## Article VI. Quorum.

A representative from each of three member governments of the five governments who hold positions, shall constitute a quorum of the COG.

## Article VII. Voting.

- a. Each representative as defined in Article III shall be entitled to one vote.
- b. A majority of the quorum may determine any issue properly before the COG and their vote shall be binding upon COG.

## Article VIII. Committees.

- a. The Chairman shall appoint committees as necessary.

## Article IX. Amendments.

- a. Amendments to the by-laws may be proposed or voted upon at either a regular or special meeting provided thirty (30) days notice is given representatives that at said meeting amendments to the by-laws shall be proposed or voted upon.
- b. A 2/3 vote of the representatives shall be required to amend the by-laws.