

**City of Cotati**  
City Council Policy No. 1991-01

Supporting a Policy of Gender Balance on City of Cotati Boards and  
Commissions

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**RESOLUTION NO. 91-67**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF COTATI  
SUPPORTING A POLICY OF GENDER BALANCE  
ON CITY OF COTATI BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**WHEREAS**, 52% of Sonoma County's population is comprised of women; and according to the California State Census Data Center, only 33% of the board and commission members in the eight cities are women, and only 29% of the board and commission members of Sonoma County are women; and

**WHEREAS**, women are currently underrepresented on many Sonoma County and city boards and commissions, such as: planning, transportation, public works, finance/economics, public safety, labor/employment. Women are close to parity only on those appointed positions considered women's interests, such as: health, education and social services; and

**WHEREAS**, establishing an overall gender balance policy will give more women the opportunity to participate in the democratic process and assist in advancing the status of women, thus ensuring that women's interests and perspectives be adequately represented in local policies and decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women strongly urges elected officials to balance appointments to attain gender equity; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a largely untapped reservoir of talent among the women of Sonoma County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on the Status of Women has a goal for appointed positions to reflect the ethnic, economic and political diversity of our community; so

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Cotati adopts the policy that: 1) all appointed bodies be gender balanced to the greatest extent possible; and 2) the City Clerk compiles and maintains an updated list of the members of each appointed body as to the current number of women and men, address, and date of term expiration; and 3) the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women be notified by the City Clerk of board and commission vacancies to assist recruitment efforts. These records are to be maintained for public review in the Office of the City Clerk.

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IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced and legally adopted by the City Council of the City of Cotati at a regular meeting held on the 9th day of October, 1991, by the following vote, to wit:

MILLER: Yes  
ELLES Yes  
ROBERTS: Yes  
SHOREY: Yes  
STEWART: Yes

Approved: Bill Miller  
Mayor

Attest: Ann J. Quinn  
Deputy City Clerk

