The Consultative District Councils

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Consultative District Councils

(C.D.C.) can be joined by any citizen who is a resident of Timisoara, is at least 18 years old and expresses his or her wish to be a volunteer member of a council.

Each C.D.C. must be made up of at least 7 people, citizens who have expressed their wish to debate the various aspects of collective life together (representatives from the fields of education, health, culture, services and trade, owners' associations etc.). C.D.Cs set the number of their members in accordance with their own realities, knowing that the maximum number of members is 50, which should not be exceeded if the council is to work properly. Members are selected during the set up meeting based on the applicants' CVs and on the majority of votes of those present. The list of substitute members is also drawn up at this stage.

The C.D.C's office is made up of 1 chairperson, 1 deputy chairperson and 1 secretary, whose task is to organize the activity of the council.

In order to encourage debates, several thematic work groups can be set up within the C.D.C.

Each member of the C.D.C will receive a membership card comprising an explanation of what a C.D.C. is, of what the role of the councilors is, a list of C.D.C. members, as well as the internal regulations they commit themselves to observe.

The C.D.C. cannot be joined by members of the local legislative or executive body.

C.D.C. meetings are held at least quarterly at places made available by courtesy of Timisoara City Hall.

Attendance is compulsory for C.D.C. members. Absence without leave from 3 consecutive meetings leads to the replacement of the person concerned, with another volunteer on the List of substitute members.

The C.D.C. shall be convened by the chairperson at least 15 days before the meeting. The summons to the meeting shall be accompanied by the meeting Agenda. The agenda is established by the C.D.C.'s office based on the proposals noted during the previous C.D.C. meeting.

C.D.C. members are volunteers - they receive neither salaries nor other facilities (season tickets, discounts etc.). They shall work only for the welfare of the community and shall be involved in the decision making process, they will be the ones to encourage local initiative and promote the proposals made by the district's inhabitants so that they can be implemented by decision of the Local Council.

C.D.C. members shall represent the interests of the citizens in a certain district and their attitude shall be a constructive one, of cooperation with the Local Council and the institutions involved in providing public services.

C.D.C meetings, presided by the chairperson, are public. Each council shall try to hold an open meeting involving the inhabitants of the district at least once a year, in order to make public the names of its members and the status of various works in progress.

The minutes of C.D.C. meetings are drawn up by the secretary, signed by the chairperson and forwarded to the members of the council within the time limit stated under paragraph 3. The minutes are accessible to anyone who asks to see them. In addition, in the Official Gazette of Timisoara City Hall and on the city website there will be room for information regarding the life of the districts.

A permanent Contact Group shall be set up in order to promote cooperation among C.D.Cs. Each C.D.C. shall assign two of its members as its representatives in the Contact Group. Each delegate is elected for the same period of time as C.D.C. members (3 years).

The Contact Group convenes at least once a year, in the presence of the Mayor of Timisoara, in order to discuss the activity of C.D.Cs and to suggest changes in the activity of C.D.Cs, if necessary.

The proposals, suggestions and notifications made by C.D.Cs shall be reviewed by the specialized committees of the Local Council, as well as by the specialized departments of Timisoara City Hall. This information shall be used to make decisions regarding the life of the community.

C.D.Cs cannot take part directly in the Local Council's decision-making process, since their role is purely consultative.

Activity within a C.D.C. is purely voluntary, based on the interest and willingness of the citizens in each district of the city of Timisoara to contribute to identifying and solving local problems. The activity of a C.D.C. imposes no financial obligations on the Local Council.

The results of the activity of C.D.Cs shall be presented in the Official Gazette of Timisoara City Hall so that citizens may have access to them.

At the end of each month, the Communication department shall inform the local councilors and the specialized departments of the City Hall about the schedule of the C.D.C. meetings for the following month, in case the members of the legislative or executive body wish to take part in these meetings.

Each year, C.D.Cs shall submit their investment proposals to the Local Council, through meetings with the Mayor and head of departments. Once in three months these proposals and the stage of the projects are

evaluated together with the leading team of the City Hall. The cost figures of such proposals shall be evaluated by municipal departments. C.D.C. chairpersons shall set their priorities according to the City Hall's ability to finance proposed projects and shall submit their proposals to the Local Council.

Each year, C.D.Cs will draw up a report addressed to the Local Council, which will contain all C.D.C. proposals and actions.

All citizens can put their names down on the list of the C.D.C. that will represent the district where they live or work. In order to do this, citizens can go to the Timisoara City Hall, no.1 C.D. Loga Blvd., room 12 - the Citizen Information Centre Department, every day from 8.00 to 16.00. People can also download and electronically complete the request to be a member in one of the C.D.C.s from our website and send the request to the e-mail address adrians@primariatm.ro. The date on which the C.D.C. is to be set up will be subsequently made public through the local media and by personally sent invitations to the meeting to each person who has subscribed to that particular consultative council.