



## **CHOA**

### **SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE POLICY DOCUMENT**

**(Adopted by the Board of Directors on October 20, 2004)**

One of the most important missions of the Rancho Palos Verdes Council of Homeowners Associations is to provide a forum where members discuss and debate important issues that affect homeowners in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes and to speak with one voice when influencing is appropriate. This document outlines the policy that governs “when and under what circumstances will CHOA speak with one voice.”

To be influential CHOA needs to speak with a mighty voice when we oppose something and when we support something, to carefully weigh what we support and think carefully about issues that could fracture our group, and to require the approval of a super majority to clearly demonstrate that the members of our organization are solidly behind an issue. This policy does not prevent member HOAs from taking a position contrary to CHOA’s.

In the past, the decision to speak with one voice was made when the issue in question had the following criteria:

1. Serious consequences for our member HOAs.
2. City-wide implications.
3. Require fact finding.
4. The direction was clear.

This new policy encompasses all of the above criteria and further states that whenever CHOA is considering speaking with one voice, it should be on an issue where CHOA can make a difference by taking a position, and is normally:

- Duly noticed
- Placed on the agenda for the members meeting

- Required that one-half the members be present in person or proxy
- Where possible, both sides of the issues are presented
- Require two-thirds (2/3) majority for CHOA to take a public position of support. (Otherwise, if the issue is approved by a majority and not a super majority (2/3), CHOA may decide to act only as an information-gathering organization and present the facts to the decision makers.)

The CHOA Board of Directors will continue to decide when to speak with one voice when time is of an essence. When time is not critical, the issue will be placed on the agenda as outlined above.

Speaking with one voice is a very important part of our mission; modifying the criteria allows us to have a policy that clarifies when and under what circumstances CHOA speaks with one voice.