

Discussion Topic 1:

Proposed Agenda Item Deadline Date: September 30

This discussion topic is carried over from the 2024 Assembly where no decision was made regarding changing the Area's business schedule to accommodate the change in the Proposed Agenda Item Deadline Date from December 15 to September 30.

Background:

Beginning in 2021, the General Service Board moved the Proposed Agenda Item Deadline date up from December 15 to September 15. This created an issue with a number of Areas, including Area 72, whose assemblies occur after September 15. If the Assembly Body votes to submit a Proposed Agenda Item for the General Service Conference, that submission falls after the deadline date would have to be submitted the following year for the conference after next.

Ad Hoc Committee Formation and Report:

This issue was discussed at the July 2023 Quarterly. The Area Committee decided to have an ad hoc committee to research and provide recommendations. An Ad Hoc committee was formed and presented its recommendation at the April 2024 Quarterly. It recommended changing the Area business schedule as follows: move the April Quarterly to March, the July Quarterly to June, and the Assembly to early September. This would accommodate the September 15 Deadline Date.

The Deadline Date Changes

At the 2024 General Service Conference, the Conference voted by substantial unanimity to make the PAI Deadline Date no earlier than September 30. The Ad Hoc Committee did not reconvene given the new deadline date and the original recommendation was discussed at the July 2024 Quarterly and the October 2024 Assembly. The commentary at the microphone included the following:

1. Since the deadline date has moved to September 30, it seems unnecessary to move the entire business schedule.
2. Have a special online assembly on just the PAI Motion(s), if any, and keep the Assembly in October.
3. Move the Assembly up two weeks into late September so its before the September 30 deadline date.
4. Don't change anything, A.A. moves slow so Area 72 isn't really at a disadvantage.

Additional Considerations:

The PAI Deadline Date is expected to remain at September 30 due to the 2024 Advisory Action stating: *The Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) submission date deadline for the 2025 General Service Conference be moved to a date no earlier than September 30, 2024.*

For Discussion:

- ***Does the Area want to revisit this topic?***
- ***If so, what alternative solutions does the Area body want to consider, if any?***
- ***Should we continue the discussion at our Quarterlies next year?***

Example Motions:

Option A

Move that, in the event the Area Committee approves a motion for a Proposed Agenda Item to be voted on at the Assembly, that the Area hold a one-day Special Assembly online in September on just the Proposed Agenda Item Motion(s) in time to submit to the General Service Board. The Motion and all background information to be included in all pre-assembly materials and in the August edition of the Newsletter, with the Annual Assembly to continue to be held in October.

Option B

Move that, going forward, that the Area Assembly be moved into the last full weekend in September that is before September 30, as soon as feasible, so that future Assemblies are before the September 30 Proposed Agenda Item Deadline Date.

Flexibility: Trying Different Solutions

Also note that the Area can try different alternatives before deciding on a direction or final motion. For example, the Area body could move that the Area Assembly try a special online assembly and see how it goes and/or try an Assembly in late September and see how it goes, or both, before making a final decision, if at all.

Additional Documents on Area Website

- Area 72 PAI History last 30 years
- Comments from 2024 Assembly
- Ad Hoc Committee Report from April 2024 (ENG)