

Motion Nos. 3 & 4 - Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Deadline Date

Motions and Background

INTRODUCTION:

These motions are presented together because they are both designed to address the same issue: Provide a way for Area 72 to be able to:

1. submit a Proposed Agenda Item to the General Service Conference by the deadline date of September 30; or
2. to support and/or join another Area in support of their Proposed Agenda Item by the deadline date of September 30.

Both Motions were advanced to the Assembly Agenda by the Area Committee at the July 2026 Quarterly Meeting.

SUMMARY OF THE MOTIONS:

Motion #3 calls for a Special Online Assembly in September if there is a PAI or request from another Area to join in their PAI submission

Motion #4 calls for moving the Assembly up into the last full weekend in September before the September 30 Deadline Date as early as possible (estimated at 5 years).

ACTUAL MOTIONS:

Motion #3: Special Online Assembly for PAI(s) Only

Move that, if the Area Committee approves a motion that qualifies as a Proposed Agenda Item for the Conference 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 by the deadline date. The Motion and all background information are 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.

Motion #4: Move Assembly Up to Last Full Weekend in September

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

FOUR POSSIBLE OUTCOMES:

1. **NO on #3 and NO on #4:** Your group doesn't see the need to change anything.
2. **YES on #3 and NO on #4:** Your group wants a Special Online Assembly but doesn't want to move the Assembly.
3. **NO on #3 and YES on #4:** Your group wants to move the Assembly into September but doesn't want a Special Online Assembly.
4. **YES on #3 and YES on #4:** Your group wants to move the Assembly into September as soon as possible (estimated at 5 years) and wants a Special Online Assembly until then so the Area has a way to submit a PAI or join another Area's PAI in the meantime.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

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 voted to submit a Proposed Agenda Item for the General Service Conference, it now falls after the

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deadline date for the next General Service Conference and will have to be submitted the following year for the Conference after next.

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.

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 from the October 2024 Assembly suggested a few possible alternatives:

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

Further Discussion at the 2025 Area Assembly resulted in three main alternatives:

1. Have a special online assembly on just the PAI Motions, if any, keep Assembly in October.
2. Move the Assembly up into late September.
3. Don't change anything, A.A. moves slow so Area 72 isn't really at a disadvantage.

NEW INFORMATION – APRIL 2026 QUARTERLY

One of the main concerns supporting this discussion is that without some way to obtain a full Area 72 conscience on a PAI before September 30, Area 72 cannot be responsive to an action taken at the Conference within the Conference cycle, i.e. if Area 72 wanted to submit a PAI in immediate response to a Conference action, that submittal would have to wait a full year before having missed the deadline date for the very next conference.

New information from our Past Pacific Region Trustee, Kathi F. during her visit here in January, states that the Trustee's Conference Committee typically will not forward to the next Conference agenda any PAI's that are in response to the previous conference, preferring instead to let the Advisory Action stand for a couple of years before forwarding PAI's that are in response to a Conference action.

This new information does not address:

1. If Area 72 wanted to join in another Area's PAI in support; or
2. If Area 72 wanted to submit its own PAI, it would have to wait to submit until the following year for consideration at the Conference after next.

NEW INFORMATION – JULY 2026 QUARTERLY

Based on the Area 72 Ad Hoc Committee Final Report from 2024, one of the main reasons given by the General Service Board (GSB) for moving the PAI Deadline Date up from December 15 to September 30¹ was the 2021 Advisory Action adopting the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) Process on a 3-year trial basis beginning in 2022. EDW has

¹ The deadline date was originally moved up to September 15 but was then moved to "no early than September 30" for the 2025 General Service Conference by a Floor Action at the 2024 General Service Conference. It has remained September 30 since.

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continued past the three-year term (the 2025 Conference). By Advisory Action at this year's Conference, EDW will end with the 2028 Conference (PAI Submissions through September 30, 2027). It is too soon to tell whether the GSB will move the deadline date after the 2028 Conference.

DISCUSSION TIMELINE:

July 2023 Quarterly – Discussion Topic raised, Ad Hoc Committee formed

April 2024 Quarterly – Ad Hoc Committee report and discussion

July 2024 Quarterly – Further Discussion

August 2024 Pre-Assemblies – Topic presented with time for Q & A

October 2024 Assembly – Further Discussion, no clear direction for a conscience

January 2025 Quarterly – Discussion postponed due to time constraints

April 2025 Quarterly – Discussion postponed due to time constraints

July 2025 Quarterly - Discussion postponed due to time constraints

August 2025 Pre-Assemblies – Topic presented with time for Q&A

October 2025 Assembly – Discussed, see 2025 Assembly Minutes Page 67-70

January 2026 Quarterly - Discussion postponed due to time constraints

April 2026 Quarterly – Discussed. Example Motion 1 moved and tabled until July Quarterly.

July 2026 Quarterly – Discussed. Example Motion Nos. 1 and 2 moved to Assembly Agenda

Additional Background Materials:

The following background materials can be found through the Area website at:

<https://area72aa.org/2025-pre-assembly-documents-eng/> and are hyperlinked here as well:

- Area 72 PAI History last 30 years
 - Minutes from the July 2026 Quarterly on PAI Deadline Date Discussion
 - Minutes from the April 2026 Quarterly on PAI Deadline Date Discussion
 - Ad Hoc Committee Report from April 2024
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