



October 31, 2018

Dear Council Board Chair and CEO,

We are pleased to invite you and your council to partner with the National Board of Directors in building a strategic and future-focused agenda for the 2020 National Council Session/55th convention. The National Council Session is convened in the third year of the triennium and is Girl Scouts of the USA's major governance meeting.

We welcome you to our Movement's gathering in Orlando, Florida October 21 – 25, 2020. We are planning events to reinvigorate our membership, deepen our commitment to our Movement, and celebrate our successes. Together we will:

- engage in conversations on important topics facing Girl Scouts and all girls
- participate in an array of educational opportunities; and
- network, mingle, and renew friendships, while we celebrate the work we do together.

Responsibilities of the National Council members are listed in the Constitution of Girl Scouts of the USA, Article V, Section 2, as found in the current *Blue Book of Basic Documents* (the October 2018 edition), available on our Girl Scout website. These include electing the National Board, the National Board Development Committee, and the officers, and acting on proposals.

To assist in the development of a proposal statement, please see the Guidelines provided. Of special note:

- An agenda topic should provide strategic direction to the Girl Scout Movement. As an item for vote, it should give guidance at a major policy level, be far-reaching in its vision, and have national impact, or result in a major change to the governance structure through amendment of the Constitution.
- Each proposal statement should be brief, clear, organized, complete, and stated in the affirmative. Examples are provided in the Guidelines.

- To avoid having operational proposals or proposals with limited interest placed on the National Council agenda, we ask that a council board of directors support only those proposal topics for which there is a thorough commitment for adoption. An example of an operational proposal is one that seeks to establish program content or change insignia.

The National Board has set a postmark/email deadline date of **August 31, 2019**, in order to give councils ample opportunity to develop their ideas, while permitting sufficient time for the National Board to make a decision regarding agenda placement at its January 2020 meeting.

Since not all matters affecting Girl Scouting nationwide require formal action by the National Council, the council may wish to offer guidance to the National Board of Directors through a discussion topic. Discussion topic suggestions have the same postmark/email deadline date of **August 31, 2019**.

We look forward to your council board of directors' active engagement in building an agenda for our 2020 National Council Session. Together in Orlando, we will inspire a new generation of Girl Scouts as we reconnect with our alumnae.

Yours in Girl Scouting,



Kathy Hopinkah Hannan
National President
Girl Scouts of the USA



Sylvia Acevedo
Chief Executive Officer
Girl Scouts of the USA