



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: City Auditor's Office

CITY AUDITOR: Madison Rorschach

DATE: June 2, 2025

SUBJECT

Request for Advisory Opinion No. 25-001, received May 20, 2025, from Commissioner Sherri McDade concerning potential conflicts of interest and recusal recommendation.

BACKGROUND

The Ethics Ordinance (i.e., City of Denton Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Article XI) Sec. 2-278, allows any City Official to request an Advisory Opinion on a question of compliance with the Ordinance. A request is forwarded to a three-member Panel of the Board of Ethics, which must issue a written Advisory Opinion within 30 calendar days.

Per the Board of Ethics' Rules of Procedure, an Advisory Opinion should be based on the facts presented in writing by the requestor without additional material being considered. The Panel shall issue the written opinion based on the majority position of the Panel. The Advisory Opinion may contain conclusions and recommendations regarding how the Ethics Ordinance applies (if at all) to a particular situation or behavior.

DISCUSSION

On May 20, 2025, the City Auditor received an Advisory Opinion request from Commissioner Sherri McDade regarding potential conflicts of interest that may arise due to her employment as CEO of Denton Housing Authority.

Based on the received request, the Board of Ethics has been asked to determine if Commissioner McDade's employment would require her to recuse or abstain from the following:

1. Any Deliberation or vote of the Planning and Zoning Commission on any item, project, proposed development project, or potential development project which involves the Authority in any way, no matter how remote, or which purports to be affordable housing;
2. Any discussion with City of Denton staff or other City Officials (e.g., Planning and Zoning Commissioner, City Council Members, etc.) on any item, project, proposed development project, or potential development project which involves the Authority in any way, no matter how remote, or which purports to be affordable housing;
3. Any Deliberation or vote of the Planning and Zoning Commission on any item, project, proposed development project, or potential development project which involves any developer, vendor, or other entity with which the Authority has or has had any business relationship;
4. Any discussion with City of Denton staff or other City Officials (e.g., Planning and Zoning Commissioner, City Council Members, etc.) on any item, project, proposed development project, or potential development project which involves any developer, vendor, or other entity with which the Authority has or has had any business relationship;

5. Any Deliberation or vote of the Planning & Zoning Commission on any item, project, proposed development project, or potential development project, which involves multifamily or affordable housing; and
6. Any discussion with City of Denton staff or other City Officials (e.g., Planning and Zoning Commissioner, City Council Members, etc.) on any item, project, proposed development project, or potential development project, which involves multifamily or affordable housing.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)

None.

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Received Request

Respectfully submitted:
Madison Rorschach, 940-349-7228
City Auditor