



City of Denton

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

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Internal Audit
CITY AUDITOR: Madison Rorschach
DATE: August 1, 2022

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and take necessary action regarding potential recommendations to clarify procedures to disclose the receipt of Gifts as defined in City of Denton Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article XI (Ethics), Sec. 2-273 Prohibitions (b) Gifts.

BACKGROUND

[City of Denton Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article XI \(Ethics\)](#), Sec. 2-273 Prohibitions (b) Gifts prohibits a City Official from accepting any gift that might reasonably tend to influence the Officer in the discharge of their official duties. This section also includes several exceptions to the definition of gifts and remedies that an Official may use if a prohibited gift is accepted.

DISCUSSION

Staff was recently asked by a City Official if they were required to disclose the acceptance of a gift that they believed was an exception to the Ethics Ordinance's definition of gift. The City has created a form that allows City Officials to disclose the acceptance of a gift; however, based on staff's review of the Ethics Ordinance there is no clear requirement for City Officials to disclose this acceptance. The Gift Disclosure form also states that the City Auditor will keep any submitted forms as part of their compliance function; however, this is not a clear requirement per the Ethics Ordinance.

For this reason, staff is requesting that the Board of Ethics provide direction on the Ethics Ordinance should be amended to clarify this requirement, or if acceptance of gifts should not require disclosure.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)

The Ethics Ordinance was first adopted by the City Council on May 1, 2018. Based on recommendations made by the Board of Ethics the Ethics Ordinance was amended on June 2, 2020 by the City Council. Based on recommendations made by the Board of Ethics, the Ethics Ordinance was amended on July 19, 2022 by the City Council.

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Gifts Disclosure Form

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