



City of Denton

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

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

CM: Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

DATE: April 4, 2023

SUBJECT

Hold a public hearing and consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton adopting Standards of Care for recreational care programs administered by Denton's Parks and Recreation department pursuant to Texas Human Resources Code Section 42.041(b)(14); and providing an effective date.

BACKGROUND

Each year the Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) presents the Standards of Care to City Council for review and adoption. The Texas Department of Regulatory Services requires municipalities to adopt an ordinance annually approving a Standards of Care for specific types of programming. The Standards of Care are requirements that either meet or exceed the current State Day Care requirements and are intended to be minimum standards by which PARC will operate programs related to youth and teens. The programs operated by PARC under the Standards of Care are recreational in nature and are not daycare programs.

Senate Bill 212 was approved by the Texas Legislature during the 74th legislative session exempting recreation programs from daycare licensing if a Standards of Care is adopted. In order to be exempt, an elementary-age (ages 5-13) recreation program may be operated by the municipality provided: the governing body of the municipality annually adopts Standards of Care by ordinance after a public hearing for such programs, that such standards are provided to the parents of each program participant, and that the ordinances shall include, at a minimum, staffing ratios, minimum staff qualifications, minimum facility, health and safety standards, and mechanisms for monitoring and enforcing the adopted local standards; and further provided that parents be informed that the program is not licensed by the State and the program may not be advertised as a child care facility.

The first Standards of Care was adopted by the City Council through Ordinance 99-365. The State changed the exemption certification to include the adoption of a new ordinance each year for the Standards of Care in order to continue the exemption status. Each year PARC makes revisions and updates to the original Standards of Care.

Proposed revisions and updates to the 2023-2024 Standards of Care are listed below and highlighted in Exhibit 3:

- Addition of two camp locations at Calhoun and Evers Elementary Schools
- Camp Discovery moved from Denia Rec Center to Borman Elementary School

The proposed adopted version incorporating the suggested changes is attached as Exhibit 4.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance as adoption of the Standards of Care is necessary to operate the recreational care programs.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)

On March 7, 2022, the Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board recommended approval of the 2022-2023 Standards of Care (4-0-2).

On April 5, 2022, City Council approved the 2022-2023 Standards of Care under ordinance 22-255.

On March 6, 2023, the Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board recommended approval (3-0).

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT

A public hearing is scheduled for March 21, 2023, with the ordinance for City Council's review and approval.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

N/A

FISCAL INFORMATION

N/A

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2- Ordinance

Exhibit 3- City of Denton Parks and Recreation Standards of Care 2023-2024 (highlighted)

Exhibit 4- City of Denton Parks and Recreation Standards of Care 2023-2024 (final)

Respectfully submitted:
Gary Packan, Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:
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