City of Denton



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

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

CM/ DCM/ ACM: Frank Dixon, Assistant City Manager

DATE: April 18, 2023

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding Aggressive Solicitation policy in the City of Denton.

BACKGROUND

In July 2022, Mayor Hudspeth made a two-minute pitch and received support for staff resources to be spent developing policies and programs to address referrals to services for people experiencing homelessness, panhandling, and behaviors in the downtown area. In January 2023, Council Member Davis made a two-minute pitch request and received support for a work session to get an update on homelessness efforts after opening the new shelter, with a focus on safety and the downtown area.

Community Services, Denton Police Department, Parks and Recreation and Economic Development have collaborated to develop a multipronged response to growth and activity in the downtown area. This response is being presented to City Council over three Work Session presentations, outlined below. The goal of this response is to identify solutions for a **cleaner**, **safer**, **happier Downtown Denton**.

- February 2023 Council Work Session: Homeless Response Solutions & Transitional Housing
- March 2023 Council Work Session: Downtown Ambassador Program
- April 2023 Council Work Session: Aggressive Solicitation

DISCUSSION

During this presentation regarding Aggressive Solicitation policy staff will:

- Review current City policies related to solicitation;
- Discuss potential changes to Ch. 16, ART. III, Sec. 16-72 (Exhibit 3) and Ch. 21 ART. 1 Sec 21.6 (Exhibit 4);
- Present options for public education and a fundraising campaign in support of the Barriers Fund;
 and
- Seek City Council Direction

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 – Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2 – Presentation

Exhibit 3 – Redline Ch. 16, ART. III, Sec. 16-72

Exhibit 4 – Redline Ch. 21 ART. 1 Sec 21.6

Respectfully submitted:
Danielle Shaw
Director of Community Services

Elisa Howell Lieutenant Denton Police Department