AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: **City Manager's Office**

CM/ DCM/ ACM: **Bryan Langley**

DATE: **April 17, 2018**

SUBJECT

Hold a third public hearing and consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, Texas amending the Code of Ordinances, related to Chapter 2 titled "Administration" Article XI titled "Ethics" and providing for findings of fact, repealer, severability, codification, effective date, proper notice and meeting.

BACKGROUND

On November 7, 2017 a charter election was held in which Proposition D was approved by the voters and required the City adopt an ethics ordinance in accordance with Texas law and with adherence to certain minimum standards. Shortly after the election the City Council directed staff to hire attorney Alan Bojorquez to assist in the development of an ethics ordinance.

Prior to commencing the drafting process the City Council completed two (2) hours of formal training on ethics laws and common components of municipal ethics policies in Texas. The City Council held a series of five (5) meetings from December 2017 to February 2018 to discuss various elements of an ethics ordinance and provide direction in the creation of an ethics ordinance. The first draft of an ethics ordinance, Draft "A", was presented to City Council on March 6, 2018. A second draft of an ethics ordinance, Draft "B", was presented to City Council on March 20, 2018. A third draft of an ethics ordinance, Draft "C", was presented to City Council on April 3, 2018. This ordinance is based on a broad sampling of more than nineteen (19) municipal ethics policies and over nineteen (19) hours of discussion with City Council. This ordinance would apply to the Mayor, City Council, Planning and Zoning, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Public Utilites Board, department heads appointed by City Council, and vendors. Staff plans to bring forward an ethics policy to be adopted by City Council for City employees along with the ethics ordinance.

A third public hearing was included at the request of City Council to provide citizens an additional opportunity to provide feedback on the current draft ethics ordinance. Additionally, citizens can provide comments through the website on the ethics ordinance development page and by emailing staff or City Council.

Included as **Exhibit 2** is an ethics ordinance based on the feedback that staff has received during the prior City Council meetings.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)
November 14, 2017- City Council directed staff to hire attorney Alan Bojorquez.
December 5, 2017- The first meeting with attorney Alan Bojorquez was held.
December 19, 2017- The second meeting with attorney Alan Bojorquez was held.
January 27, 2018- The third meeting with attorney Alan Bojorquez was held.

February 6, 2018- The fourth meeting with attorney Alan Bojorquez was held.
February 20, 2018- The fifth meeting with attorney Alan Bojorquez was held.
March 6, 2018- Ethics Ordinance Draft "A" was presented to City Council.
March 20, 2018- Ethics Ordinance Draft "B" was presented and a public hearing was held.
April 3, 2018- Ethics Ordinance Draft "C" was presented and a public hearing was held.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELATIONSHIP

The City of Denton's Strategic Plan is an action-oriented road map that will help the City achieve its vision. The foundation for the plan is the five long-term Key Focus Areas (KFA): Organizational Excellence; Public Infrastructure; Economic Development; Safe, Livable, and Family-Friendly Community; and Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship. While individual items may support multiple KFAs, this specific City Council agenda item contributes most directly to the following KFA and goal:

Related Key Focus Area: Organizational Excellence

EXHIBITS
Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet
Exhibit 2- Ethics Ordinance
Exhibit 3- Presentation

Respectfully submitted:
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Deputy City Manager

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