Thursday, January 17, 2008

Public Hearings and Possible Actions RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 48

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and approve an ordinance amending local standards of care for the Parks and Recreation Department Children's Recreation Program.

Amount and Source of Funding: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required

For More Information: Farhad Madani, Assistant Director; 974-6714

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board.

Prior Council Action: Approved by Council February 2006. Standards are subject to yearly review to comply with state regulations.

This ordinance amends the local standards of Care for Parks and Recreation Department Programs for Children. Minor modifications were reviewed and approved by the Parks and Recreation Board on November 27, 2007.

The State of Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services administers state regulations and general licensing procedures for all child-care facilities. An exemption from licensing is available to the City in operating elementary age recreation programs if the City Council annually adopts standards of care by ordinance after a public hearing. The ordinance must 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.

This ordinance complies with this regulation. Adoption of the ordinance will result in appropriate standards of care applied to the City's recreation programs.