Thursday, March 10, 2011

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s) RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 29

Subject: Set a public hearing and consider an ordinance on the local standards of care for the Parks and Recreation Department's Children Recreation Program for 2011. (Suggested date and time: March 24th, 2011, 4:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX).

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Patrick Corona, Division Manager, 974-6727; April Thedford, Program Coordinator, 974-6716

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

This ordinance reestablishes local standards of care for Parks and Recreation Department programs for children. No modifications were made during the annual review. The Parks Board recommended it for adoption on January 25, 2011.

The State of Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services administer 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 annually adopts standards of care by ordinance after a public hearing and the standards of care provided to parents of each program participant. The ordinance must include at 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.