

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	54154	Agenda Number	46.
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Meeting Date:	2/4/2016	Department:	Austin Code Department
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Subject

Approve second and third readings of an ordinance that creates a reasonable accommodations process.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
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Prior Council Action:	Resolution No. 20130808-049; Council passed on 1st reading on October 15, 2015 on a vote of 10-0, Council Member Zimmerman abstained.
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For More Information:	Carl Smart, Director, 512.974.1970 or Patricia Link, Attorney Senior, 512.974.2173
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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	June 30, 2015 - Community Development Commission: No recommendation from the Commission. August 10, 2015 - Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities: Recommended the draft ordinance 9-0 (motion made by Commissioner Hair, second by Commissioner Marshall) (Commissioner Trejo absent). September 16, 2015 - Recommended by the Health and Human Services Committee on a 4-0 vote.
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MBE / WBE:	
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

The federal Fair Housing Act requires a municipality to grant reasonable accommodations to its rules, ordinances, regulations, and policies. An accommodation is a change or exception to a rule, ordinance, regulation, or policy. A requested accommodation is reasonable when it is necessary to ensure that an individual with a disability has an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling. The draft ordinance creates a process for City staff to grant reasonable accommodations requires by the federal Fair Housing Act.

The draft ordinance includes the process to make a request for a reasonable accommodation, the time period for staff to make a decision on the request, and an appeals process.

After the draft ordinance passed on first reading, provisions to address expedited to reviews have been added. The draft ordinance now included language that (1) allows a requestor to ask for expedited review and (2) states the reviewing official will take action to accommodate a request for expedited review.