

CM Renteria, Item #7

Late Back-Up.

Approve a resolution relating to amenities in mobile home parks.

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive plan endeavors to create healthy and family-friendly communities through development that includes a mix of land uses and housing types, affords realistic opportunities for transit, bicycle, and pedestrian travel, and provides community gathering spaces, neighborhood gardens and family farms, parks, and safe outdoor play areas for children; and

WHEREAS, the City's Families and Children Task Force determined in 2008 that Austin should offer families of all incomes, ages, and abilities access to safe, attractive, and well-maintained parks or public open green spaces because parks and cultural amenities contribute significantly to a child's well-being and to the family-oriented character of a community; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the City's Office of Sustainability reported that Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 have the highest rates of food assistance, which suggests that these districts have limited access to fresh and healthy food; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2010 United States Census, District 1 has a population of 26.9% under the age of 18, District 2 has a population of 31.1% under the age of 18, District 3 has a population of 21.8% under the age of 18, and District 4 has a population of 28.7% under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, a majority of mobile home parks in the City are located within Council Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4; and

WHEREAS, Section 25-2-1205 of the City Code requires a mobile home park to include a certain amount of open space between mobile home sites; and

WHEREAS, Section 25-2-1220 of the City Code requires a mobile home park to include a recreation facility such as a playground, swimming pool, or community building, but does not require a mobile home park to include a certain amount of community open space, or more than one type of recreation area or facility; and

WHEREAS, because of the number of children residing in Districts 1 through 4, it is likely that children live at mobile home parks that will benefit from playgrounds, community open space, and other recreation areas or facilities; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:

The City Council initiates amendments to City Code Chapter 25-2 (Zoning) to establish requirements for amenities for mobile home parks such as recreational areas/facilities and community open spaces. The City Manager is directed to prepare a draft ordinance consistent with this initiation and national best practices and to consider including the following provisions, in addition to any other provisions deemed appropriate:

~~The Council initiates amendments to City Code Chapter 25-2 (Zoning) that will do the following:~~

- Requiring a new mobile home park to include a playground and at least one other type of recreation facility or area;
- Requiring a new mobile home park to provide community open space that can be used for community gardens or other open space activities;
- Requiring an existing mobile home park owner or licensee to provide areas where park residents can grow fruit and vegetables; and
- Limiting the ability of a mobile home park owner or licensee to charge a fee for residents to use the playground, recreation facility or area.

~~The Council directs the City Manager, to the extent feasible, to process the amendments described in this Resolution.~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

The City Manager, to the extent feasible, is directed to present a draft ordinance consistent with this Resolution to the Council's Housing and Community Development Committee for consideration no later than 120 days after adoption of this Resolution.