Thursday, May 13, 2010

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

Item No. 43

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending City Code sections 25-10-3 and 25-10-103 and adding a new section 25-10-157 authorizing the placement of memorial markers in the public right-of-way. (Suggested date and time: June 10, 2010, 4:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX).

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Al Eells, Assistant Chief / 974-5030

Boards and Commission Action: To be Reviewed by the Planning Commission on June 8, 2010.

Prior Council Action: February 4, 2010 City Council approved a resolution initiating amendments to City Code Chapter 25-2 (Sign Regulations) to authorize placement of memorial markers in the public right-of-way to honor public safety officers killed in the line of duty.

February 4, 2010 City Council approved a resolution initiating amendments to City Code Chapter 25-2 (Sign Regulations) to authorize placement of memorial markers in the public right-of-way to honor public safety officers killed in the line of duty.

The Public Safety Officer Memorial Project consists of placing granite memorial markers at locations in Austin where a City of Austin Public Service employee was killed in the line of duty. In order to place memorial markers in the City's right-of-way, a code amendment must be made to allow the placement of memorial markers in the public right-of-way. The proposed amendments include reasonable requirements to ensure that the design, location, and placement of the memorial markers do not pose a threat to public safety.

This project was first conceived as an effort to remind the citizens of Austin of the ultimate sacrifice made by Austin Police Officers in the name of public safety, security and well-being. The project later expanded to include all City of Austin Public Safety personnel killed in the line of duty (Fire, EMS and Police). The Memorials will contribute historical value and serve as a place for family, friends and prospective officers to remember their fallen officers.