



City Council Meeting Ethics Ordinance Amendments

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November 20, 2023

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Previous Actions of Council

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- August 14, 2023 Directed City Attorney and Interim City Manager to come back with recommended changes to the Ethics Code to increase transparency.
- October 10, 2023 Directed City Attorney and Interim City Manager to return with Ordinance to amend per Council Direction.

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Amend **2.92.080 A** to:

1. Define “Donor” as person or entity giving money or in-kind donation for use by a council member for their district or their office for the community.
2. Define “Donation” means cash, the value of any in-kind contributions or gifts to the council member for use by their office or in their district.
3. “Benefiting” includes as used in this section shall include but not be limited to any contract, bid award, franchise, permit, zoning or rezoning, and other award that council will vote on.

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Amend **2.92.080 B** to:

1. Define “Donor” as person or entity giving money or in-kind donation for use by a council member for their district or their office for the community.
2. Require Council member verbal disclosure of all contributions or donations over \$500 simultaneous with any agenda item benefiting the contributor or donor.
 - a. Submit written disclosure
 - b. Noted in meeting minutes
3. Applies to amounts received any time during campaign or term of office.

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Amend 2.92.080 to add C:

1. Require contributor and donor to disclose contribution or donation to any current member of council if there is an agenda item benefiting the contributor or donor – to be posted on Agenda.
2. City Manager to establish process to notify contributors and donors of requirement and provide a form.
3. Same timeframe applies as in B.

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Amend 2.92.080 to add D:

- Council Members annual report of contributions and donations

Amend 2.92.120, 2.92.130(A)(5) and 2.92.160(B)(1):

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Add Ethics Commission Jurisdiction over:

1. Candidates
2. Political Committees
3. Contributors or donors obligated to disclose under new 2.92.080(B)

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2.92.160(C):

- Add Chief Internal Auditor as Council Appointed employee.

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2.92.170(A):

- Adjust timeframe for the respondent's required response to begin after the City Attorney determines jurisdiction.

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2.92.200:

- Include a civil fine of up to \$500 as possible sanction for violation of Ethics Code within 30 days of order.

Amend Section 2.92.020(10):

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- Correct definition of contribution to delete an inaccurate reference to the Texas Government Code.

Ethics Commission

October 30, 2023:

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- Recommended approval with the following substantive changes:
 - No Obligations for individuals or business
 - No disclosure requirements regarding persons receiving a recognition on a Council agenda
 - Include address of donor on annual reports
 - Ensure a process to enforce civil fine

City Manager to Create a Process for Contributors and Donors

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- City Staff shall create a system to educate and provide a process for contributors and donors to notify the City of relevant donations to fulfill their obligations under 2.92.080(C)

Next Steps

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- City Attorney's office to finalize draft based on council's direction.
- December 5th : Introduction
- December 12th: Public Hearing

Thank You!



MISSION



Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community.

VISION



Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government.



VALUES

Integrity, **R**espect, **E**xcellence,
Accountability, **P**eople

MISIÓN



Brindar servicios excepcionales
para respaldar una vida y un
lugar de alta calidad para
nuestra comunidad

VISIÓN



Desarrollar una economía regional
vibrante, vecindarios seguros y
hermosos y oportunidades
recreativas, culturales y educativas
excepcionales impulsadas por un
gobierno de alto desempeño



VALORES

Integridad, Respeto, Excelencia,
Responsabilidad, Personas