



COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

DEPT./DIVISION SUBMISSION & REVIEW:

Kevin Beavers, Director of Parks and Recreation
Leah Anderson, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation

ITEM DESCRIPTION: FIRST READING – PUBLIC HEARING: Consider adopting an ordinance approving the Temple Parks & Recreation Department’s Youth Programs Standards of Care and approving the 2024 – 2025 annual report.

BACKGROUND: The City of Temple’s Parks and Recreation Department operates an after school recreational program, known as “The Zone” at multiple local school campuses. Under Texas Human Resources Code Section 42.041(b)(14), an elementary-age (ages 5-13) recreation program operated by a municipality is exempt from State childcare licensing requirements so long as certain conditions are met. In order to qualify as an exempt youth recreation program, a municipality must annually adopt standards of care by ordinance after a public hearing for such programs. The standards of care must be provided to the parents of each program participant, and the parents of participants must be informed that the program is not licensed by the State, and the program may not be advertised as a childcare facility. The ordinance must include, at a minimum, staffing ratios, minimum staff qualifications, minimum facility, health, and safety standards, and mechanisms for monitoring and enforcing the adopted local standards.

Some of the key elements of the City of Temple’s Youth Programs Standards of Care include defining participant age, ensuring prospective program employees have completed a criminal background check, providing training to new employees (orientation, first air, and CPR), identifying standards of when to notify parents, and establishing program adult to child ratios.

Each year the Parks and Recreation Department is required to review the previous year’s after-school and camp programs, and develop an annual report, including any recommendations of change to the Standards of Care. In order to continue to be exempt from the State’s childcare licensing requirements the Parks and Recreation Department is required to bring the Standards of Care to Council for adoption by ordinance annually .

Staff is not recommending any changes to the Standards of Care for the upcoming year.

ALIGNMENT WITH ADOPTED PLANS:

Plan	Comments
Strategic Plan	This item supports the Strategic Plan goal of “Beautiful spaces and unique experiences”; the commitment to “Develop and showcase Temple as a unique place with amazing arts, culture, dining, and recreation experiences and amenities”; and the priority to “Provide a wide variety of high-quality recreation services and opportunities.”

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Conduct the public hearing on first reading, adopt the ordinance and Youth Programs Standards of Care, and approve the 2024 – 2025 annual report as presented.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS RECOMMENDATION: This item was not reviewed by any of the official boards and commissions.

FISCAL IMPACT: Not Applicable.

ATTACHMENTS:

Ordinance
2024 – 2025 Standards of Care
2023 Annual Report