

ORDINANCE NO. {{item.sequential\_number}}

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TEMPLE, TEXAS, ADOPTING THE TEMPLE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH PROGRAMS STANDARDS OF CARE AND APPROVING THE 2021 ANNUAL REPORT; AND PROVIDING AN OPEN MEETINGS CLAUSE.

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**Whereas**, the City of Temple's Parks and Recreation Department operates an after school recreational program known as "The Zone" at 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;

**Whereas**, 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, 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;

**Whereas**, 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;

**Whereas**, some of the key elements of the City of Temple's Standards of Care, attached hereto as Exhibit A, and incorporated herein for all purposes, include:

- Defining a participant as a youth, ages 5-13, whose parent(s) have completed all required registration procedures and is determined to be eligible for a Temple Youth Program;
- Ensuring that criminal background checks will be conducted on prospective Youth Program employees and disqualifying certain candidates from employment based on certain criminal history records;
- Requiring that as soon as possible after employment all appropriate staff will complete a course in first aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR);
- Providing training and orientation to program employees and program-specific manual for each Youth Program;
- Providing that the ratio will be no greater than 20 participants per one leader;
- Assuring parents that they will be notified immediately if a:
  - participant is injured;
  - participant has a sign or symptom requiring exclusion from the site (i.e. communicable disease, fever, illness); and
  - if there is an outbreak of any communicable disease that is reportable to the State Department of Health; and

- Requiring an annual report to the City Council on the overall status of the Youth Program and its operation relative to the adopted Standards of Care;

**Whereas,** COVID-19 has significantly affected the enrollment in youth programming at the Zone after-school sites as well as the summer camp program and camps held during the school year holidays - health and safety of program participants was the highest priority for camps with the COVID-19 protocols that were put in place and no camp failed to operate during 2020, although all programs saw lower overall attendance;

**Whereas,** the Zone After School program served 152 children across eight sites for the 2020-21 school year, while the current 2021-22 school year has served 203 participants across six campuses - overall, reduced staffing capacities in 2021 and 2022 have limited the ability to reach the pre-pandemic participation and staffing rates;

**Whereas,** all training and inspection requirements in the adopted Youth Standards of Care have been met;

**Whereas,** the overall participation in summer camp programming also experienced reduced enrollment and capacities in 2020 and 2021 - in summer 2020, a single “Summer Camp 2020” was held at three sites divided by age groups and served 284 children;

**Whereas,** in summer 2021, two new all-day general day camps were created: “Camp Discovery” for children ages 5-7” and “Camp Pathfinder” for children ages 8-13. These two camps were held at a BISD elementary school campus. In addition to those two camps, Wilson Park Recreation Center offered a variety of all-day specialty camps including arts, sports and STEM camps;

**Whereas,** in 2021, all City of Temple Parks and Recreation summer camp opportunities served a total of 273 children in this new format;

**Whereas,** each year the Parks and Recreation Department is required to review the previous year’s youth programming, including after-school and camp programs, and develop an annual report, including any recommendations of change to the Standards of Care;

**Whereas,** previously, the Standards of Care and annual report were brought to Council in January of each year – this year, the Department is asking for an approval of the Standards of Care concurrently with the timing for both Temple ISD and Belton ISD interlocal agreements to continue offering these after-school program services and plans to continue with this schedule;

**Whereas,** in order to continue to be exempt from State childcare licensing requirements, the Parks and Recreation Department will bring the Standards of Care to Council annually for adoption by ordinance;

**Whereas,** Staff is not recommending any changes to the Standards of Care for the requested two-year period;

**Whereas,** Staff recommends Council adopt the Temple Parks & Recreation Department's Youth Programs Standards of Care, attached hereto as Exhibit A, and approve the 2021 annual report; and

**Whereas,** the City Council has considered these matters and deems it in the public interest to authorize these actions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMPLE, TEXAS, THAT:**

**Part 1: Findings.** All of the above premises are hereby found to be true and correct legislative and factual findings of the City Council of the City of Temple, Texas, and they are hereby approved and incorporated into the body of this Ordinance as if copied in their entirety.

**Part 2:** The City Council adopts the Temple Parks & Recreation Department's Youth Programs Standards of Care, attached hereto as 'Exhibit A'.

**Part 3:** The City Council approves the 2021 Child Care Standards Annual Report, attached hereto as 'Exhibit B' and incorporated herein for all purposes.

**Part 4:** It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Texas Open Meetings Act.

**PASSED AND APPROVED on First Reading and Public Hearing on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022.**

**PASSED AND APPROVED on Second and Final Reading on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2022.**

THE CITY OF TEMPLE, TEXAS

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TIMOTHY A. DAVIS, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

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Jana Lewellen  
City Secretary

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Kathryn H. Davis  
City Attorney