

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 08/26/25

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0794

LOG NAME: 22PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS AND SPAS ORDINANCE REVISION

SUBJECT

(ALL) Adopt an Ordinance Repealing and Restating Chapter 16 “Health and Sanitation,” Article XVIII “Public Swimming Pools and Spas” of the Code of the City of Fort Worth to Amend Regulations for Public Pools and Spas to Align with Changes to State Law, Update Definitions and Regulations, and Name the Environmental Services Department as the Regulatory Authority

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance repealing and restating Chapter 16 “Health and Sanitation,” Article XVIII “Public Swimming Pools and Spas” of the Code of the City of Fort Worth to amend regulations for public pools and spas to align with changes to State law, update definitions and regulations, and name the Environmental Services Department as the regulatory authority.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication is for the City Council to consider the attached ordinance which repeals and restates Chapter 16 “Health and Sanitation,” Article XVIII “Public Swimming Pools and Spas” of the City Code to amend regulations for public pools and spas to align with changes to State law, update definitions and regulations, and name the Environmental Services Department as the regulatory authority.

On March 1, 2005, the City Council approved Ordinance Number 16313 which updated and clarified public swimming pool and spa health and safety provisions and supplemented State regulations governing public swimming pools and spas.

As recently as April 2024, the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) governing Public Swimming Pools and Spas was revised to adopt the 2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code and National standards for suction outlets. Adoption of the attached revisions to Article XVIII will ensure that the ordinance reflects current State statutes and regulations.

Proposed changes to Article XVIII Public Swimming Pools and Spas will adopt minimum State regulations by reference. The Article will retain four existing higher regulatory standards which requires: 1) a nationally-accredited pool/spa operator for municipal and competitive pools; 2) approval of a licensed professional engineer on design and construction; 3) signage for prohibiting diaper changing; 4) the owner or person in control of the public swimming pool to post signage detailing how to report any mechanical, safety, or water quality issues.

There are no additional financial burdens for the public swimming pool and spa operator.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that this action will have no material impact on City funds.

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