

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/24/25

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0624

LOG NAME: 23NUISANCE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

SUBJECT

(ALL) Adopt an Ordinance Amending Appendix B, "Department of Code Compliance," Article II, "Code Compliance," Division 3 "Nuisances," of the City of Fort Worth Texas (2015) to Reduce the Notice Period before Abating Nuisances from Ten Days to Seven Days

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance amending Appendix B, "Department of Code Compliance," Article II, "Code Compliance," Division 3 "Nuisances," of the City of Fort Worth Texas (2015) to reduce the notice period before abating nuisances from ten days to seven days.

DISCUSSION:

Appendix B, "Department of Code Compliance," Article II, "Code Compliance," Division 3 "Nuisances," of the City of Fort Worth Texas (2015), as amended, reflects the City's desire to reduce and abate environmental, health, zoning and housing nuisances. The Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 342 provides for abatement of nuisances within seven days of notice of a violation. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Chapter 51, the City Council has the general authority to adopt and publish an ordinance or police regulation that is for the good of government, peace or order of the municipality and is necessary or proper for the carrying out of a power granted by law to the municipality.

Code Compliance is recommending amending Appendix B, Article II, Division 3 "Nuisances," to reduce the notice period before abating nuisances from ten days to seven days. Nuisances are known to harbor rodents and other disease-carrying pests which may be innately harmful to people and property. Nuisances create fire hazards to structures and nearby properties. Nuisances have been associated with criminal activity. Nuisances may also diminish property values and the appearance of a neighborhood, diminishing any incentive for others in the neighborhood to maintain their own property, thus creating a self-perpetuating cycle.

By adopting this amendment, the Code Compliance Department seeks to protect the public safety, preserve the quality of life, and promote efficiency within the City. Enforcement action can be taken against property owners who fail to maintain their property in accordance with the ordinance. Enforcement action includes abating nuisances after a seven-day notice of violation instead of a ten-day notice of violation.

This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

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 approval of the recommendation will have no material effect on City funds.

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Expedited