# City of Fort Worth, Texas Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 03/19/24

## M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 24-0199

LOG NAME: 19AMEND HUMAN RELATIONS ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE SOURCE OF INCOME

## SUBJECT

(ALL) Adopt Ordinance Amending Chapter 17, "Human Relations," Article III: Discrimination of the Code of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (2015), as Amended, by Adding a New Division 6 "Source of Income" Prohibiting Discrimination Against a Veteran because of the Veteran's Lawful Source of Income to Pay Rent and, for Housing Accommodations that Benefit from a City Incentive, Prohibiting Discrimination because of a Person's Lawful Source of Income to Pay Rent

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance amending Chapter 17, "Human Relations," Article III: Discrimination of the Code of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (2015), as amended, by adding a new Division 6 "Source of Income" prohibiting discrimination against a veteran because of the veteran's lawful source of income to pay rent and, for housing accommodations that benefit from a City incentive, prohibiting discrimination because of a person's lawful source of income to pay rent.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Neighborhood Services Department recommends amending Chapter 17, "Human Relations," Article III: Discrimination of the Code of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (2015), as amended, by adding a new Division 6 "Source of Income" to prohibit discrimination against a veteran because of the veteran's lawful source of income to pay rent and, for housing accommodations that benefit from a City incentive, to prohibit discrimination because of a person's lawful source of income to pay rent.

This amendment reflects the City of Fort Worth's desire to reduce homelessness among military veterans by providing more opportunities for housing and to further reduce homelessness by ensuring that any housing accommodation benefiting from a voluntary City of Fort Worth incentive may not discriminate against a person because of the person's lawful source of income, including vouchers directly or indirectly funded by the federal government.

Discriminating against a veteran because of the veteran's lawful source of income to pay rent would be a Class C misdemeanor and result in citations with a fine not to exceed \$500.00 for each offense.

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 effect on city funds.

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Expedited