

Staff Report

TO: City Council

FROM: Julio Martinez III, Mayor Pro Tem

DATE November 15, 2022

SUBJECT: Discussion on the Creation of a Beaumont Youth Council to Serve as an

Advisory Board to the Beaumont City Council

Description To provide youth engagement and assist in problem solving solutions.

Background and Analysis:

Many government agencies create a youth advisory council to facilitate active and consistent engagement from young community members, particularly at the high school level. Youth councils are a group of engaged, motivated high school students that serve as an advisory board to the legislative body, in this case City Council. The Youth Council would identify youth related problems and participate in community service/volunteer activities throughout the community. The Youth Council would have the opportunity to convey their concerns and provide problem-solving solutions to City Council and staff about ways to enhance the quality of life within our community.

The proposed program would include 20 to 25 high school students from high schools in Beaumont. Within the Youth Council, 5 members would be elected to a Board of Directors with positions including: Director, Assistant Director, Secretary and two Philanthropic Chair/Event Coordinator.

Monthly meetings would be held at the Civic Center and members would attend various community events, such as State of the City. In addition, the group would perform community service on projects held during evenings and weekends. The term of the Youth Council would coincide with the school's calendar year – August to June.

Youth Council members would be expected to maintain a 2.5 GPA, be in good standing with their school, and provide their own transportation to meetings and events.

Additionally, Youth Council members would have the opportunity to learn about several areas of local government and participate in a "shadow" day with one department.

Attached to this staff report are draft proposed documents to implement a Beaumont Youth Council (Attachment A).

Fiscal Impact:

The cost to implement this program would be absorbed in the departmental budgets for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Recommended Action:

Review, discuss, and provide direction on creating the proposed Beaumont Youth Council to serve as an advisory board to the Beaumont City Council.

Attachments:

A. Draft Beaumont Youth Council forms