

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT
FOOD PROTECTION AND EDUCATION BRIEFING**

Food Code Ordinance Discussion

Presented to the
Health, Environment and Human Services Committee
May 31, 2005

PURPOSE OF THE BRIEFING

- To discuss with the committee the proposed recommendation for posting inspection scores at food establishments
- Recap of the Annual Recognition Program

BACKGROUND

- May 23, 2005 - HEHS briefing on proposed Food Code Ordinance
 - Directed to have further discussions with the Greater Dallas Restaurant Association (GDRA) to resolve conflict over posting of food scores at food establishments
- June 2004 – May 2005 - Meetings, communications, and phone conversations with GDRA with the following results:
 - Agreement on the following issues:
 - Requirements for Food Handler's Certification
 - Changes to the code allowing employee drinking in food preparation areas
 - Posting of inspection scores on the website
 - Availability of inspection report upon request
 - Recognition Award of Excellence for consistently high scoring food establishments
 - Differences: Posting of inspection scores at the food establishments
- January 10, 2005 – Briefing to HEHS
 - Enhancements to the website changes on informing the public of the inspection scores
 - Establishment of the Recognition Program

BACKGROUND (Cont'd)

- November 1, 2004 - Briefing to Environmental Health Commission (EHC) on restaurant scoring with the following recommendations in part:
 - Improvement to the City's website to make inspection scores readily available
 - Initiation of a recognition system for consistently high scoring restaurants

- October 25, 2004 - HEHS briefing on the Food Handler Certification Program

- June 14, 2004 - HEHS briefing on proposed additions to the Food Code and the registration program for the homeless
 - Staff were directed to brief the EHC and meet with the Restaurant Association

RESULTS OF MEETING WITH GDRA

- Additional conversations with GDRA resulted in the following recommendation:
 - Deletion of the proposed change to the Food Code Ordinance requiring posting of the scores at food establishments

RECAP OF RECOGNITION PROGRAM

- Create an Annual Recognition Program that will be given to full service and fast food establishments (Award of Excellence – *(see attachment)*)
 - For their achievement of two consecutive scored food inspections with 90-100 score out of a possible 100 points with no critical violations
 - No specific repeated code violation(s) from previous inspection
 - No confirmed foodborne illness outbreak

- The Food Protection and Education Division will issue all of the Awards of Excellence during the National Food Safety Month in September

- Recipients of the Awards of Excellence will be publicized:
 - Press release
 - Posted on Environmental and Health Services Department website
 - Provided a certificate for display in their establishment

- This Program is not part of the Food Code Ordinance
 - Departmental Incentive Program

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Food establishments scores will be posted on the website
 - Inspection scores will have numerical and letter grade
- The deletion of the proposed change to the Food Code Ordinance requiring posting of the scores at food establishments
- Request that the implementation and enforcement of the new code begin August 1, 2005
- Implementation of the Recognition Program effective September 2005
- Request City Council Approval of the Food Code Ordinance on June 8, 2005

RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Attachment



City of Dallas

Food Protection and Education Division

Award of Excellence

Restaurant Name

Restaurant Address

For

Food Safety and Sanitation Practice Obtain During the Year

2006

Director, Environmental and Health Services Department

Manager, Food Protection and Education Division