Memorandum



DATE October 30, 2015

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT Youth Commission

On November 3, 2015, the City Council will be briefed on the reinstatement of the Youth Commission. The briefing will be provided by the Office of Intergovernmental Services.

The briefing materials are attached for your review.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require additional information.

A.C. Gonzalez City Manager

c: Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager
Eric D. Campbell, Assistant City Manager

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer Sana Syed, Public Information Officer Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council

Youth Commission

Dallas City Council November 3, 2015













Youth Commission Background

- August 1994 City Council approved an ordinance to create a Youth Commission to address and advocate for issues that impact the lives of youth in Dallas
- Projects Included: Youth Forums, Crime Prevention, the Youth Resource Guide and a Smoking Ordinance
- September 2010 The Youth Commission was dissolved
- June 2015 Mayor Rawlings asked Councilmember Young to recommend whether to revive the Youth Commission
- \$25,000 included in FY2015-16 budget for this effort



Mission

To inspire Dallas youth to become lifelong leaders actively engaged in civic affairs, public policy, and advocacy

Growing Great Leaders





Objectives

- Advise the City Council on City-related issues
- Provide a forum for voicing youth concerns
- Assist the City in identifying programs and services needed in the community
- Promote regular and active civic engagement among youth



Benefits to Youth

- Develop leadership skills
- Participate in volunteerism and community service
- Gain a working knowledge of local government
- Enhance classroom civic education
- Understand policymaking process



Qualifications

- Full-time student in grades 9 – 12 in good standing
- Must be a resident of Dallas for at least 6 months prior to appointment
- Must be appointed by a Councilmember and reside in his/her district





Structure

- 15 members representing the Mayor and each Council District
- Term of two years with a two year renewal option
 - First term: January 2016- September 30, 2017
 - Thereafter, October 1- September 30
- Mayor will appoint chair, and the full Council will appoint vice-chair
- The Youth Commission can create subcommittees

Youth Commissioner Responsibilities

- Must attend monthly meetings
- Commit to a minimum of 4 hours per month
- Advocate for youth related and other issues in respective council districts and the city as a whole



Stakeholders

- The City Council will support the Commission through its Council Liaison
- City staff will provide necessary information and assistance to the Commission in the performance of its duties and responsibilities
- Intergovernmental Services will identify external partners to help support this effort

Potential Projects

The Youth Commission will be responsible for developing its own agenda and work plan. Examples of possible projects include:

- Youth Summit
- Park and Recreation Youth Programs
- Public Safety and Crime Prevention
- Participation in the National League of Cities and Texas Municipal League conferences
- Water Conservation Projects
- GrowSouth Initiative
- Neighborhood Plus



Administration

- The Office of Intergovernmental
 Services will serve as program
 administrator to the Youth Commission
- \$25,000 was included for efforts in FY15-16 budget



Timeline

- November 3, 2015 City Council Briefing
- November 10, 2015 City Council Consideration
- November 16, 2015 Nominations accepted
- December 4, 2015 Nominations deadline
- January 6, 2016 City Council considers nominees
- Week of February 1, 2016 First meeting/retreat

