

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE October 23, 2015

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life & Environment Committee: Sandy Greyson (Chair),
Tiffinni A. Young (Vice Chair), Rickey D. Callahan, Mark Clayton, Philip T. Kingston, B. Adam McGough

SUBJECT **Youth Commission**

On Monday, October 26, 2015, the Quality of Life & Environment Committee will be briefed on the Youth Commission. The briefing will be provided by the Office of Intergovernmental Services.

The briefing materials are attached for your review.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joey Zapata".

Joey Zapata

Assistant City Manager

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
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

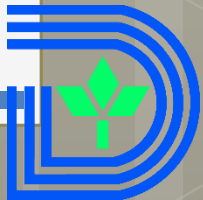
Eric D. Campbell, Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council

Youth Commission

Briefing to:

The Quality of Life & Environment
Committee

October 26, 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 for this effort



Mission

To inspire Dallas youth to become lifelong civic leaders actively engaged in assisting policy makers and promoting advocacy.

Growing Great Leaders



Objectives

- Advise the City Council on City-related issues
- Provide a forum for voicing the concerns of youth
- Assist the City in the identification of programs that are needed in the community
- Promote regular and active civic engagement with the youth
- Perform other duties assigned by the City Council or City Manager



Benefits to Youth

- Opportunity to develop leadership skills
- Increases volunteerism and community service
- Develops a working knowledge of local government
- Enhances classroom civic education
- Understand policymaking process



Qualifications

- Full-time students 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
- Must reside in the district of the Councilmember who appointed them



Structure

- 15 members representing the Mayor and each Council District
- Serve a term of two years with a two year renewal option
 - First Commission will serve from January 2016-September 30, 2017
 - Thereafter, terms will be from October 1-September 30, for 2 year increments
- 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
- A minimum time commitment of up to 4 hours per month (including full commission and committee meeting attendance)
- 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
- The City Manager will provide necessary information and assistance to the commission in the performance of its duties and responsibilities
- Seeking external partnerships from public and private organizations 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
 - Fair Park Institute
 - 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

- October 26, 2015 – Quality of Life Committee Briefing
- November 3, 2015 – Full Council Briefing
- November 10, 2015 – City Council Consideration
- November 15, 2015 – Begin Accepting Nominations
- December 18, 2015– Deadline for Nominations
- January 20, 2016 –Council Considers Appointees
- February 2016 – Youth Commission Retreat
- March 2016 – First Meeting

