



Title 5 Review

(Business Taxes, Licenses and Regulations)



Financial, Internal Audit, Engineering/CIP &
Management Services - LRC

September 1, 2011



Intent

- Comprehensive review of Title 5 chapters
 - 33 ranging from Occupation Tax to Bingo Regulation
 - Last wholesale review over a decade ago
- Address ongoing City Council/Citizen requests
 - Simplify procedures
 - Clarify requirements
 - Added convenience



Mechanisms

- 1) Eliminate antiquated regulations
 - 14 chapters currently proposed for deletion
- 2) Identify opportunities for process improvements
 - Revisit license/permit renewal terms
 - Simplify 5.100 (Vendors)
 - Electronic submittals
- 3) Clean-up existing language
 - New administrative chapter
 - Address inconsistencies
 - Remove redundancies



Major Changes: Proposed Chapter Deletions

- Evaluated public health, safety purpose
- Verified existing regulations
 - Related operational permits
 - State mandates
 - Benchmarked other Texas communities
- Relevant in today's business climate?



Major Changes: Chapters proposed for deletion

- 5.04 (Occupation Tax and License Fees)
- 5.12 (Amusement Devices)
- 5.16 (Appliance Dealers and Installers)
- 5.36 (Gasoline Filling Stations)
- 5.40 (Junk Dealers)
- 5.44 (Kindergartens)
- 5.56 (Messenger Services)



Major Changes: Chapters proposed for deletion

- 5.68 (Motor Carrier Transportation Agents)
- 5.76 (Nurseries & other Businesses Selling Plants or Fertilizer)
- 5.88 (Private Detectives)
- 5.92 (Shoe Shining)
- 5.104 (Watchmen)
- 5.108 (Servicing Cesspools, Grease Traps and Septic Tanks)
- 5.112 (Bingo Regulations)



Major Changes: Process Improvements

- Extend permit/license renewal term
 - 5.08 (Alcoholic Beverages) mirror state two year permit
 - Revisiting all permit/license types for two year term
 - Fixed locations vs. licensed individuals
- Remove codified renewals dates
 - 5.48 (Laundries)
 - 5.72 (Motor Vehicle Dealers)
- Delete late penalty subsections
- Streamline procedures for appeals



Major Changes: Process Improvements

- Simplify 5.100 (Vendors and Solicitors)
 - Establishes one vendor type
 - Currently references:
 - Vendor
 - Itinerant vendor or itinerant solicitor
 - Every person who engages in the business of buying, selling or exchanging money for profit
 - Or all other vendors
- Add provision for electronic submittal of reports
 - 5.80 (Pawnbrokers)
 - 5.84 (Dealers in Secondhand Goods, Coins & Precious Metals)



Major Changes: Clean-Up Existing Language

- Create new chapter (5.01) to address general requirements
 - Clarifies role of permit official as defined in 1.04.030
 - Uniformly addresses:
 - Fees are non-refundable
 - Licenses/permits non-transferable
 - Posting requirements
 - Governmental entities exempted from fees not process (in keeping with 18.02103.7.1)
- Consistent reference to established fees by budget resolution of the City Council (not proposed for increase)
- Grammatical/Typographical errors



Policy Direction Sought

- General agreement with approach taken and proposed chapters for deletion?
- Move forward with two year permit/license term adjustments?
- Proceed with simplified approach to vendor licensing?



Next Steps

- Complete ordinance draft
 - Related precision changes
- Continue vetting process with impacted stakeholders
- Bring proposed amendments to City Council
 - Within 30 days



Questions/Comments