



ETHICS ORDINANCE

OR-21-023

September 21, 2021

Background

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- After discussion by the City Council, staff was directed to draft an ethics ordinance.
- City Council reviewed the preliminary draft on September 7 and was given an opportunity to provide additional input before the final ordinance was presented for consideration.

Changes from September 7

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- Based on direction from the City Council, the following changes are included in the draft:
 - Removal of the municipal court judges and related references
 - Deleting language on gifts and outside employment
 - Clarifying that a relative (as defined) of a city official cannot serve on the Ethics Review Board

Councilmember Comments

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- ❑ These are NOT included in the draft:
 - ▣ Exclude City Manager and City Auditor
 - ▣ Eliminate Ethics Review Board
 - ▣ Consolidate all ethics and codes of conduct into the ethics ordinance
 - ▣ Make the ordinance applicable to ALL staff

Councilmember Comments

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- Require background checks for committee members
- Allow a complainant to be unnamed
- Complainant not required to testify if the complaint can be proven without the complainant's testimony
- Change to frivolous complaints (now 2-177) so that a person who files 2 frivolous complaints within 6 months is prohibited from filing a complaint for one year

Alternatives

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- ☐ Decline to adopt an ethics ordinance
- ☐ Adopt the attached ethics ordinance with amendments
- ☐ Adopt the ethics ordinance as presented