

SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: July 3, 2003

SUBJECT: Recreation Program Advisory Board and the Youth City Government
Advisory Board Consolidation

AFFECTED COUNCIL DISTRICTS: Citywide

STAFF REPORT BY: Michael Sears, Budget & Policy Analyst

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT.

AND CONTACT PERSON: Public Services Department, Rick Graham

KEY ELEMENTS:

The Administration is proposing that the City Council repeal chapter 2.70 of the City Code and amend Chapter 2.37 of the Salt Lake City Code. The amended chapter would be titled Youth and Family Program Advisory Board. The Administration has discussed the possible blending of the Recreation Program Advisory Board and Youth City Government Advisory Board with each of the boards. Both boards have agreed that the two boards should be combined because the roles are similar in form and function and because budget and program efficiencies are possible. If the Council accepts the proposed revisions, formal action would take place at a future Council meeting.

➤ OPTIONS

1. Forward the ordinance to a future Council meeting for consideration.
2. Request additional written information or refer to an additional Council work session.
3. Do not advance the ordinance.

➤ POLICY CONSIDERATIONS AND ANALYSIS

As noted in the transmittal, it is not the intent of the Administration to reduce or diminish the responsibilities of the existing boards once the consolidation occurs. The newly created board will advise the City on youth and family services and programs. Section 2.37.010 of the proposed ordinance states the new proposed policy of the City. **There are policy changes in the proposed ordinance.**

Currently Ordinance 2.70 states that the City policy is to provide for a youth city council and youth mayor to interact with the City Council, neighborhood organizations, schools and citizens. The goal of the Youth City Government policy, as stated in Section 2.70.010, was to prepare young people to be future leaders, to provide positive role models and to provide opportunities for youth to play an active role in promoting solutions to community problems. The new proposed ordinance does not have the same language relating to youth city government and lists youth city government only as a youth activity that the City may provide.

The Council may wish to clarify their position on youth city government and decide if they are comfortable with the proposed level of emphasis on Youth City Government. The City currently employs one FTE to staff the Youth City Government program.

Currently Chapter 2.37 of the Salt Lake City states that it is the policy of the City to provide recreational services and programs. The proposed policy statement wording is changed to read “youth and family”. The current wording of the ordinance states that the City will provide and coordinate recreational programs in Salt Lake City and will coordinate with and supplement other entities that provide recreation, whereas the new language changes the sections dealing with recreation to youth programming. The current ordinance addresses the assessment of recreational and program needs and establishing criteria and guidelines for that assessment, whereas the proposed ordinance does not refer directly to the assessment of recreational needs but instead focuses on youth and family programming. Recreational programming may be included in the proposed ordinance but is not specifically identified. **The Council may wish to discuss whether or not references to recreation should be changed to youth and family in the proposed policy statement and ordinance.**

Sections of the proposed ordinance still refer to community events, sports and facilities. **The Council may wish to clarify that the proposed revisions to Chapter 2.37 do not affect the Golf Enterprise Fund or the Golf Advisory Board.** The revision adds a section on Youth Programs.

The proposed revision to the Recreation Board Ordinance changes the membership of the recreation board. The new Youth and Family Board would not include the Mayor, City Engineer or a representative of the Salt Lake City School District as ex officio nonvoting members. The Director of Youth Programs, the City Attorney and the Chief of Police will be ex officio nonvoting members.

Additionally, seven members of the proposed 14 member Youth and Family Board would represent the seven City Council and School Board districts, one member for each district. **The Council may wish to note that the City Council and Salt Lake City School Board districts do not have the same boundaries.** Additional members of the board would represent the Salt Lake City School Board, Salt Lake City Community Education Program, and communities served by recreation and community program facilities throughout the City. It is proposed that two high school age members be appointed to the board. **The Council may wish to ask for clarification on what the Salt Lake City Community Education program is.**

The proposed ordinance also requires that board members sign an oath office. This oath is required by law and is to be signed by City officials and filed with the City Recorder. **The Council may wish to clarify that it is the policy of the City that advisory board members sign the oath of office and that all City advisory board members are required to do the same.**

The proposed ordinance also addresses meetings and having a quorum present to conduct business. **The Council may wish to note that proposed language in the ordinance that allows the chairperson of the board to poll the board by telephone to transact board business in the absence of a quorum is not consistent with the electronic meeting language adopted by the City Council.** City Ordinance 2.84 states that boards, commissions or committees of the City must have a majority of a quorum physically present to conduct business by telephone. The City Council must have a quorum physically present to conduct business.

➤ BUDGET RELATED FACTS

The City Council on June 24, 2003 adopted the revised tentative budget for fiscal year 2003-2004. Within the adopted budget there were several program transfers and program consolidations. The Youth and City Government program was transferred to the Department of Public Services and combined with the existing Youth and Family program. The leadership of the combined program has been consolidated and the organization structure for the department updated. The new, combined program will be responsible for staffing the proposed Youth and Family Board.

Although the transmittal from the Administration does not identify budget reductions for this consolidation, efficiencies relating to board appointments and program staffing are noted.

cc: Rocky Fluhart, Cindy Gust-Jenson, David Nimkin, Rick Graham, Kevin Bergstrom and Janet Wolf

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