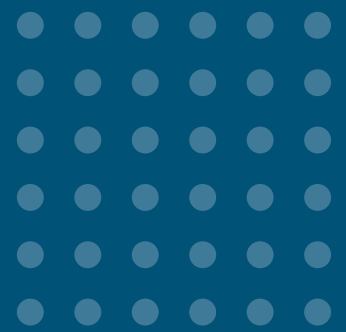




CITY OF
WICHITA



Diversity, Inclusion and Civil Rights Advisory Board Ordinance Update



City Manager's Office

March 1, 2022



Background



- In December 2020, the City Council established the Diversity, Inclusion and Civil Rights Board, however, the board achieved a quorum until June 2021.
- The process was originally designed to begin with the approval of the board's draft workplan in the summer of 2020. However, upon achieving a quorum, the City Council tasked the board with providing a recommendation to the City Council on the Non-Discrimination Ordinance
- The board finalized their executive committee and began moving forward with their original process in January 2022.
- The board is requesting that the ordinances establishing the board be amended in order to improve the functioning of the board and increase the diversity of board membership.



Analysis



- The proposed amendments are as follows:
 - Provide additional clarification as to the groups to be represented by board membership;
 - Allow for the election of a Chair, Co-Chair and Parliamentarian to assist with Board function, and;
 - Increase the maximum number of terms allowed to be served by a board member be increased from two to four terms. The revised term of appointed board members would be April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2024.



Analysis



- Amendments regarding selection allows the Mayor and Council to be selective in their appointments for the Diversity, Inclusion, and Civil Rights Advisory Board, allowing further clarification on those factors that may qualify or disqualify an applicant.
- The request for adjustment of the start date and increased term length will assist the formation and cohesion of the board.
- For the goals of the board to be achieved, establishing trust and understanding among each board member is critical.
- Establishing connections between the community and the board will take time, and having new members replace old members during that trust building phase may impair elements of the board's agenda.



Legal Considerations



- The ordinance has been drafted and approved as to form by the Law Department.



Recommendation



- Place the ordinance on first reading and authorize all necessary signatures.





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