



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Public Hearing and First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting of July 30, 2013
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting of August 20, 2013

DATE: July 9, 2013

TO: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager

FROM: Mark E. Van Vleck, P.E., Director, Development Services Department
MarkVV@cctexas.com
(361) 826-3246

Amending the Unified Development Code and Municipal Code for
Sidewalk Cafes and Streetscape Zones

CAPTION:

Ordinance amending the Unified Development Code by revising subsections 1.11.3 – Defined Terms, subsection, 6.13.1 Streetscape Zone and Pedestrian Amenities; establishing a new subsection 6.13.1 – Permission to Use City Sidewalks; amending the City of Corpus Christi, Texas, Code of Ordinances, by revising Section 49-2 – Obstructions Generally, and Section 49-6 – Gates opening across sidewalks; and providing for severance, penalties, and publication.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to amend the Unified Development Code (UDC) and the Municipal Code to allow the Director of Development Services, rather than the City Council, to approve Use Privilege Agreements (UPA) for sidewalk cafes, awnings, outdoor displays and sales, street furniture, and other improvements or structures in the public right-of-way.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The UDC currently allows sidewalk cafes, awnings, outdoor displays and sales, street furniture, landscaping, art, planters, lighting, and other streetscape zone amenities on public rights-of-way through a UPA with the City. The City encourages streetscape zones and amenities that would improve the downtown pedestrian environment. All UPAs currently require City Council approval. For minor improvements, such as the streetscape zone and pedestrian amenities, the proposed code amendments would authorize the Director of Development Services to administratively approve UPAs. By authorizing the Director to administratively approve UPAs, the process will be easier and quicker for customers and will not burden the City Council with minor improvements.

The other proposed text amendments to the UDC will define sidewalk cafes and clarify existing language in the Streetscape Zone Ordinance. Additionally, the City Municipal Code is being amended in order to eliminate conflicting provisions.

ALTERNATIVES:

None

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Not applicable

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

The proposed text amendments conform to City policy.

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

Development Services, Planning and Environmental Services, and Legal

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Operating Revenue Capital Not applicable

Fiscal Year: 2012-2013	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget				
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This item				
BALANCE				

Fund(s):

Comments: None

RECOMMENDATION:

Planning Commission and Staff Recommendation (July 17, 2013):
Approval of the proposed code amendments.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance