



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Item for the City Council Meeting of February 23, 2016
Second Reading Item for the City Council Meeting of March 8, 2016

DATE: January 21, 2016
TO: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager
FROM: E. Jay Ellington, Director
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Update to Code of Ordinances regarding campfires on the Gulf of Mexico Beaches
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CAPTION:

Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances Section 10-67 regarding campfires on Gulf of Mexico Beaches; providing for penalties; providing for severance; and providing for publication.

PURPOSE:

Update Code of Ordinance Section 10-67 regarding campfires on the Gulf Beach to increase the distance campfires must be from structures and require campfire to be completely doused before covering with sand.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Watershore and Beach Advisory Committee was asked by concerned visitors, residents and business owners to review the current ordinance regarding campfires on the Gulf of Mexico beaches. In recent years there have been an increasing number of brush fires on the island. In addition, there have been reported incidents of people being hurt and vehicles being damaged by covered fire pits along the beach that are still hot or have debris with sharp edges or nails because inappropriate materials were used for firewood. The update to the ordinance extends the distance from permanent structures that campfires can be built; states what material may not be used in a campfire on the beach; requires a campfire to be completely doused before covering with sand.

These changes were approved by the Watershore and Beach Advisory Committee on Thursday, February 4, 2016. In addition, the Fire Marshal has reviewed and approved the update.

ALTERNATIVES:

Do not approve the changes to the ordinances

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

City Council must approve all proposed changes to the City Code of Ordinances

EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:

Non-emergency

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

Legal

FINANCIAL IMPACT:☐ Operating☐ Revenue☐ Capital☒ Not applicable

Fiscal Year: 2015-2016	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget				
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This item				
BALANCE				

Fund(s): General Fund

Comments: none**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of this request

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance