



## Administrative Services

Meeting Date: September 26, 2023

### AO Environmental Justice Ordinance Recommendations

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<b>Department:</b>	Office of the Administrator
<b>Presenter:</b>	Takiyah A. Douse, Interim Administrator
<b>Caption:</b>	Receive as information the recommendations from the Office of the Administrator on a proposed environmental justice ordinance.
<b>Background:</b>	<p>On August 8, 2023, the Augusta Commission discussed the topic of adopting an environmental justice ordinance. During the discussion members of the Commission posed both questions regarding the potential impact of an ordinance. Although the Commission did not determine a conclusive path forward, a directive was given to the Office of the Administrator to provide a recommendation based on input from (1) Community Stakeholders and (2) Environmental Experts on how a proposed ordinance would impact Augusta.</p>
<b>Analysis:</b>	<p>Our findings conclude internal and external stakeholders do not support the adoption of an environmental justice ordinance. Among the reasons for the lack of support include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Elimination of job creation and economic growth.</li><li>2. Legal opposition from various development groups.</li><li>3. Perception of an ‘unfriendly’ business environment from prospective manufacturing and industrial firms.</li></ol> <p>Administrative impact on city departments responsible for regulatory and enforcement of a proposed ordinance (zoning/permitting/enforcement, environmental services, etc.).</p>
<b>Financial Impact:</b>	N/A
<b>Alternatives:</b>	N/A
<b>Recommendation:</b>	Receive as information the recommendations from the Office of the Administrator on a proposed environmental justice ordinance.
<b>Funds are available in the following accounts:</b>	N/A
<b><u>REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:</u></b>	N/A