



CITY COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Commission

DATE: December 10, 2024

SUBJECT: Discussion and possible action to repeal Sec. 2-26 of the City's Code of Ordinances related to prohibited campaign contributions. – **Mayor Curran**

RECOMMENDATION:

Mayor Curran requests a discussion and possible action to repeal Sec. 2-26 of the City's Code of Ordinances, which prohibits campaign contributions from certain parties (lobbyists, real estate developers, and vendors) to candidates for Mayor or Commissioner.

BACKGROUND OF ITEM:

Sec. 2-26 was implemented via Ordinance No. 23-18 on September 12, 2023, to prevent potential conflicts of interest by restricting campaign contributions from specific groups (lobbyists, real estate developers, and vendors). The ordinance was enacted to promote transparency and avoid undue influence in City elections.

The Mayor has requested a review and possibly repeal of this ordinance, citing concerns that the current provisions may limit legitimate campaign contributions without significantly impacting ethical concerns or governance transparency.

ANALYSIS:

The repeal of Sec. 2-26 would allow lobbyists, real estate developers, and vendors to contribute to political campaigns for the Mayor and Commissioners. Proponents of the repeal argue that current regulations unnecessarily restrict legitimate contributions, which could be made with proper disclosure and under existing state laws regarding campaign finance.

Opponents of the repeal may argue that removing the restrictions opens the door to potential conflicts of interest and may undermine public trust in elected officials.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Sec. 2-26 Code of Ordinances
2. Ordinance 23-18