



CITY COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM

CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

AGENDA TOPIC: Approval of a resolution reappointing the Fair Oaks Ranch Municipal Court Presiding and Alternate Judges for two years beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2027; authorizing the expenditure of the required funds; and authorizing the execution of any and all applicable documents by the City Manager to effectuate the resolution

DATE: July 17, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Municipal Court

PRESENTED BY: Consent Item: Clayton Hoelscher, Procurement Manager
Ricardo Bautista, Court Administrator

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:

Government Code Chapter 29 Municipal Courts Section 29.004 (a) states the judges and alternate judges of the municipal court in a home-rule city are selected under the municipality's charter provisions relating to the election or appointment of judges. City Charter Chapter V Departmental and Administrative Organization Section 5.03 Municipal Court mandates the City Council shall appoint, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting membership of the Council, Municipal Judges of the Municipal Court. The Judges shall:

- Shall be competent, duly qualified attorneys licensed and practicing for at least two (2) years in the State of Texas; and
- Shall receive compensation as determined by the City Council

In lieu of employing our municipal judges, the City has historically contracted judicial services. In 2023, the City published a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) seeking firms and individuals interested in providing judicial services. The City Council appointed Mr. Darrell Dullnig as the Presiding Municipal Court Judge and Mr. Frank Dickson as the Alternate Municipal Court Judge. Their current terms expire on September 30, 2025. Each has expressed a desire to continue serving the City in their current roles. The proposed resolution provides for their re-appointment and authorizes the execution of any or all applicable documents to effectuate the resolution.

Staff recommends approving the reappointment of Judge Darrell Dullnig as the presiding judge and Frank Dickson as the alternate judge to the Fair Oaks Ranch Municipal Court for a two-year term. This will provide continuity of judicial services without operational disruptions.

POLICY ANALYSIS/BENEFIT(S) TO CITIZENS:

- Complies with state statute and the City Charter.
- Supports Strategic Action Plan Pillar 5 Operational Excellence.
- Ensures that criminal and civil offenses are addressed.
- Ensures continuity in services without disruption to our operations.

LONGTERM FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY IMPACT:

The FY 2025-26 Budget allocates funding for Municipal Court judicial services.

LEGAL ANALYSIS:

Resolution approved as to form by legal.

RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED MOTION:

Consent Item: I move to approve a resolution reappointing the Fair Oaks Ranch Municipal Court Presiding and Alternate Judges for two years beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2027, authorizing the expenditure of the required funds, and authorizing the City Manager to execute any and all applicable documents to effectuate the resolution.