

Consideration of Occupancy Related Ballot Measure

City Council Regular Meeting

Background



The City's occupancy ordinance limits occupancy of residential dwellings to a family of any size plus one additional unrelated occupant *OR* no more than three unrelated occupants.

Active enforcement of the ordinance (Section 3.8.16 of the Land Use Code, also called "U+2") began in 2005.

Adjustments have been made to the Ordinance allowing for extra occupancy designation in some zones and the addition of a Host Family Permit.

Numerous types of analysis have been completed demonstrating trends over time and anticipated and perceived impacts and opinions.

City Council continues to hear strong arguments from the community on both the effectiveness and the detriments of the ordinance.

Ballot Question



Council discussion under other business at the July 25, 2023 meeting resulted in ballot resolution and question being brought forward.

Purpose:

Refer a question to voters on desire for Council to direct staff to consider changes to the existing ordinance that would:

- Allow some increase to the allowed occupancy based on housing type/size, zone, or other policy measure
- Remove the existing definition of family and replace with non-familial language

Ballot Options



Materials include two options within the Resolution and associated ballot language. Both options eliminate familial relatedness as regulation mechanism, and both allow for an increase from the currently allowed occupancy.

Option 1:

Proposes occupancy limits set based on a max number of adults allowed to reside in a dwelling (to be filled in by Council.)

Option 2:

Proposes more general language to address new occupancy regulations in residential dwellings based on the number of adults per dwelling unit, building size and/or bedrooms, or by some other method.

