

Council Agenda Summary

March 1, 2022

Agenda Item Number

Key Staff Contact: Becky Safarik, Interim Community Development Director/Deputy City Manager, 350-9786

Title

Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Title 2 of the Greeley Municipal Code relating to Special Districts by adding a new Chapter 16.

Summary

At its January 25, 2022 worksession City Council was presented with an overview of Special Districts, their authority and purpose, and relationship to specific improvements and services. Of particular note was the option to allow the establishment of a 'Parks and Recreation District' that would allow the imposition of a mill levy assessed against district properties to create certain open space and recreational improvements in an area not fully served with similar municipal services. Special districts are considered quasi-governmental and political subdivisions and are governed by a board that manages the improvements of and services for the life of the district.

To allow for such districts the City of Greeley first needs to amend its municipal code to create the legislative framework to provide the criteria and process for consideration of a Parks and Recreation District, which could be modeled generally after the City's Metropolitan District standards. If such code amendments are approved any interested party could petition to establish a Parks and Recreation District (or other special district) in the city of Greeley. The City is not obliged to approve an application to proceed to an election if it is not satisfied that the proposal is in the community's best interest after completing its review and analysis of the proposed district.

At the conclusion of the worksession discussion, Council indicated it would be willing to advance such a code amendment to allow for the consideration of Special Districts. Attached is an ordinance to accomplish that objective. If introduced, the ordinance would proceed to a public hearing on March 15, 2022.

If the ordinance is enacted and before a district could be formed, a full application and subsequent review would be considered by Council to establish a district for property within the municipal boundaries. Such an application would include a service plan and analysis. If acceptable to Council the applicant would then present the establishment of the district to landowners within the proposed boundaries of the District which would be set for an election. Election cycles are set forth in state statute and a vote in favor of the district by a majority of the property owners authorizes the district.

Fiscal Impact

Does this item create a fiscal impact on the City of Greeley?	No
If yes, what is the initial or onetime impact?	
What is the annual impact?	
What fund of the City will provide funding?	
What is the source of revenue within the fund?	
Is there grant funding for this item?	No
If yes, does this grant require a match?	
Is this grant onetime or ongoing?	
Additional Comments:	

Legal Issues

The City Attorney's Office has reviewed this draft ordinance and no issues have been identified.

Other Issues and Considerations

None

Applicable Council Goal or Objective

Infrastructure & Growth: Establish the capital and human infrastructure to support and maintain a safe, competitive, appealing and successful community.

Access & Connection to Recreational, Cultural, Educational, Natural Resources and Human Services.

Decision Options

1. Introduce the ordinance and schedule a public hearing and final reading;
2. Amend the ordinance and introduce the amended ordinance and schedule a public hearing and final reading;
3. Deny the ordinance;
4. Continue consideration of the ordinance to a date certain (which may include simultaneously referring to a worksession for further review and discussion);
5. Suspend development of such Special District legislation in the Greeley Municipal Code indefinitely.

Council's Recommended Action

A motion to introduce the ordinance and schedule a public hearing and final reading for March 15, 2022.

Attachments

Ordinance