CITY OF NORMAN

Regulation of Unsolicited Written Materials
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Background

- Previous memos on issue
 - June 2010
 - Aug. 2010
 - May 2013
 - Nov. 2019
 - April 2021



Potential Solution: Lexington-Feyette Ordinance

Unsolicited written materials delivered to premises shall be placed:

- (1) On a porch, near the door
- (2) Securely attached to the front door
- (3) Mail slot
- (4) Between the exterior front door and the interior front door
- (5) In a distribution box located on or adjacent to the premises
- (6) Personally with the owner, occupant, and/or lessee of the premises.

First Amendment Concerns

- Free speech at issue
- Time, place, manner restriction
 - Cannot distinguish based on content of speech
 - Must be narrowly tailored to serve significant government interest
 - Must leave open ample alternative channels for communication

McCraw v. OKC

- Struck down OKC prohibition on standing, sitting, or staying in public medians
- "Panhandling ordinance"
- Harm to public safety was not sufficiently proven
- Prohibition was too broad, not tailored enough
- The City failed to consider alternatives

McCraw cont.

- City should do the following prior to enactment:
 - Develop record (is the harm real?) ***
 - Consider alternatives
 - Leave open alternative routes for communication

Legislative Findings Update

Stormwater

- Summer 2022 Cleanup of stormwater drainage area
 - Indication of scope and extent of environmental impact
 - Would yield highly demonstrative evidence of governmental interest in regulation
- Additional photographic evidence



Buyer's Edge publishes every week, it's a tabloid that wraps the inserts in the Wednesday paper, and the inserts we deliver to households that do not subscribe to the newspaper.

It wraps the weekly grocery inserts and other inserts like Walgreens, CVS, Home Depot, Wal-Mart, etc.

We print and deliver 445,000 copies of Buyer's Edge. It hits 97% of households in the metro. Of the 445,000, only about 21,000 go outside the metro.

The breakout of the 445,000 is: 140,000 in the Wednesday paper, wrapping the Wednesday inserts.

305,000 goes to non-subscribers, delivery starts on Tuesday and finishes on Wednesday.

Of the 305,000, 250,000 are delivered by carrier like a newspaper; the other 55,000 are mailed, mainly to apartments.







THE OKLAHOMAN

MEDIA COMPANY

Visual Blight





Visual Blight







Stormwater







Stormwater

Drainage Basin on Daws & University







Stormwater





Legislative Findings Cont.

- Citizen Complaints
 - Action center activity
- Winter 2021-Spring 2022
 - Develop citizen portal or reporting system to determine efficacy of opt out

QUESTIONS?

