

AGENDA MEMO

Business of the City Council City of Sweeny, Texas

| Meeting Date | 04.25.2023 | Agenda Item | |
|------------------------------|--|--------------|---|
| Approved by City Manager | Yes | Presenter(s) | Lindsay Koskiniemi, City Manager |
| Reviewed by City Attorney | Under Review (as of 4/21/2023) | Department | Administration, Development Services, Economic Development |
| Subject | Discussion and possible action to adopt guidelines consistent with the Film Friendly certification criteria through the Office of the Governor of Texas. | | |
| Attachments | Proposed Film Friendly Guidelines and permit | | |
| Financial Information | Expenditure Required: | | N/A |
| | Amount Budgeted: | | N/A |
| | Account Number: | | |
| | Additional Appropriation Required: | | |
| | Additional Account Number: | | |

Executive Summary

The Office of the Governor of Texas offers a certification program for cities to certify as "Film Friendly." Certification as a film friendly city is an economic development activity that promotes film production using cities as filming destinations to increase revenue.

The process to certify as film friendly and be added to the certified cities database for film production companies to review is a three-step process that requires applicant cities to: 1) attend a film friendly certification workshop, 2) adopt film friendly guidelines and permitting for filming, and 3) submit several photos of 'the good, the bad, and the ugly" within and around the city that can be used in film production.

On April 4, 2023, the city manager attended a film friendly workshop in pursuit of applying for film friendly certification for the City of Sweeny. This agenda item is a request to adopt the attached guidelines and permitting for completion of the city's application. Additionally, the city manager would like to ask for the community's help in getting photos to add to the city's film-friendly portfolio to help attract film producers.

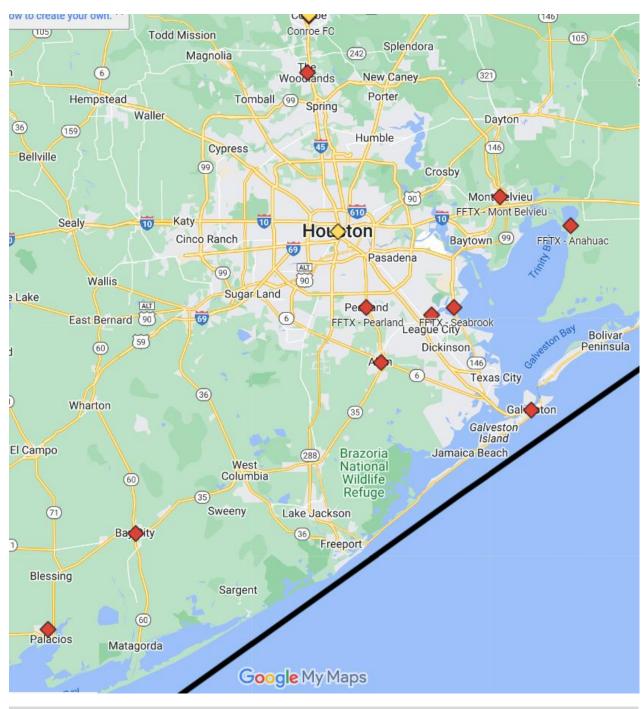
Other cities in the greater-Houston metro area film friendly certification include: Houston, Mont Belvieu, Anahuac, Pearland, Alvin, League City, Seabrook, Galveston, and Bat City. None of our nearest neighbors are certified, so this is a great opportunity for Sweeny to attract a film production.

Fees provided in the attached documents, if the film friendly guidelines are adopted will need to be incorporated into the City's fee schedule, which will come back to Council for discussion and action to update the fee schedule at a later meeting on consent agenda.



AGENDA MEMO

Business of the City Council City of Sweeny, Texas



Recommended Action

Staff recommends approval.