



City Council Agenda Item Coversheet

Proposed Motion:

Adopt the State Required Applications and Prohibited Technology Policy.

Item Description:

Last session, the Texas legislature passed S.B. 1893, which prohibits the use of TikTok and certain other social media applications and services on governmental devices. The bill specifically requires cities and other political subdivisions to adopt a policy: (1) prohibiting the installation of TikTok or another covered application on any device owned or leased by the governmental entity; and (2) requiring the removal of covered applications from those devices.

Although the bill went into effect immediately upon being signed by the governor in 2023, the requirement that a city adopt a policy described above did not apply until the Department of Information Resources (DIR) and the Department of Public Safety (DPS) jointly developed a model policy for governmental entities to use in developing their own local policy. The DIR/DPS model policy was recently released on September 16, 2024.

DIR guidance provides that governmental entities, including cities, have until November 20, 2024 to adopt their local policies required by S.B. 1893. It should be noted that city policies adopted to comply with S.B. 1893 need not mirror the DIR/DPS model policy, but it is expected that the DIR/DPS model policy is used in developing the city policy. The law provides, and the model policy reflects, that city-adopted policies may allow for the installation and use of a covered application to the extent necessary for: (1) providing law enforcement; or (2) developing or implementing information security measures."

If proposing to spend money, what amount and from what budget line item?

N/A