

MEMORANDUM

TO: Claire Powell, City Manager

FROM: Chris Lee, Chief Information Officer

DATE: December 16, 2024

SUBJECT: **Approval of Administrative Policy Statement 10.0 – Technology Section X – Use of Covered Applications and Prohibited Technology.**

BACKGROUND

On December 7, 2022, Governor Greg Abbott required all state agencies to ban the video-sharing application TikTok from all state-owned and state-issued devices and networks over the Chinese Communist Party's ability to use the application for surveilling Texans. After this announcement, the city made changes to block the use of TikTok on all city owned devices and infrastructure. Following the issuance of the Governor's directive, the 88th Texas Legislature passed Texas Government Code, Title 6, Subtitle A, Chapter 620, which prohibits the use of covered applications on all governmental entity devices and requires governmental entities to have a policy in place for all parties to adhere to.

ANALYSIS

This policy brings the city into compliance with Texas Government Code, Title 6, Subtitle A, Chapter 620, which prohibits the use of covered applications on any governmental entity devices. The City Manager will be able to approve potential exceptions for specific use cases not otherwise specified in this policy. At this time, any covered applications meeting the requirement put forth in this policy have been removed and are not able to be downloaded or used in any capacity on city devices or infrastructure unless otherwise stated in this policy.

CITY STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council approve the policy as set forth in the caption above.