

MEMORANDUM

TO: Claire Powell, City Manager

FROM: Stacie Anaya, Director of Parks and Recreation

DATE: February 16, 2026

SUBJECT: **Public Hearing: Consideration of An Ordinance of the Lewisville City Council, Adopting Standards of Care for Youth Recreational Programs by Repealing and Replacing Article VI, “Standards of Care for Youth Recreational Programs”, of Chapter 10, Parks and Recreation, of the Lewisville City Code with a New Article VI, “Standards of Care for Youth Recreation Programs”, and Setting forth Other Provisions Applicable to the Standards of Care.**

BACKGROUND

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) regulates various childcare operations, municipally operated camps and after-school programs are exempt from these state regulations. This exemption exists because DFPS standards are primarily designed for facilities providing continuous, year-round childcare.

Under the Texas Human Resources Code 42.041 (b)(14) and DFPS Rules, 40 TAC 745.115(3), the exemption is provided for certain municipal recreation programs for youth ages 5 to 13 when the following criteria are met:

- Governing body of the municipality annually adopts standards of care by ordinance after a public hearing
- Ordinance includes at a minimum: staffing ratios; staff qualifications; facility, health and safety standards; and mechanisms for monitoring and enforcing the adopted local standards
- Standards of care are provided to the parents of each program participant
- The program cannot be advertised as a child-care facility
- Parents must be informed that the program is not licensed with the State of Texas as a child-care operation.

In alignment with state requirements for exempt entities, the City of Lewisville Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) has established its own Youth Recreational Program Standards of Care. These standards serve as the fundamental guidelines for the city's teen camp, youth camp, and after-school programs, ensuring a high level of safety and quality while maintaining their classification as recreational programs rather than state-licensed daycare.

PARD offers a diverse range of one-day, week-long, and multi-day camps at both Thrive and the Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA). These programs are strategically

scheduled during Lewisville Independent School Districts (LISD) school breaks for children ages six to 12. To ensure a safe and enriching camp experience, the department adopts Youth Recreational Program Standards of Care annually. These standards help protect campers by minimizing risks and establishing fundamental health, safety, and well-being requirements for all participants.

In addition, the proposed Standards of Care provide all the necessary controls and rules that the state deems necessary for a program of a very limited duration such as a camp. The Texas Administrative Code requires the Council's adoption of the standards of care ordinance each year.

ANALYSIS

The proposed changes for the Standards of Care for youth recreation programs include repeal and replacement of a portion of Chapter 10, Article VI, "Standards of Care for Youth Recreation Programs" to allow more flexibility in modifications of activities during extreme weather events, including the need for last-minute cancellations or site location changes in response to inclement weather conditions to ensure participant safety.

CITY STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

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