



## CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** The Office of the City Manager   **DATE:** May 18, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** Consider Ordinance No. 3653, amending Ordinance No. 3645 relating to the temporary moratorium on all door-to-door solicitation activities and distribution of handbills to modify the penalty provision.  
**PRESENTER:** Alicia Richardson, City Secretary

### **SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this item is to amend the penalty provision for violation of the temporary moratorium on all door-to-door solicitation activities and distribution of handbills.

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

On April 22, 2020, the Mayor approved a seventh amended Declaration of Local Disaster due to public health emergency in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The seventh declaration suspended all door-to-door solicitation activities and distribution of handbills authorized by Chapter 18, Article VII, Solicitors and Handbills in accordance with the CDC guidelines to minimize all in-person contact. Subsequently, the City Council approved the eighth amended Declaration of Local Disaster extending the declaration until April 30, 2020.

Following Governor Abbott's issuance of Executive Order GA-18 and GA-19, the City Council, at its May 4, 2020 meeting, approved Ordinance No. 3644 that superseded all City of North Richland Hills Declarations of Public Health Emergency and designated a Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ordinance No. 3644 incorporated Governor Abbott's Executive Orders and provided for a penalty for violation of the ordinance.

At the May 4, 2020 meeting, City Council also approved Ordinance No. 3645 establishing a temporary moratorium on all door-to-door solicitation activities and distribution of handbills to mitigate the effects and spread of COVID-19, with the ordinance expiring on June 8, 2020, or unless otherwise extended.

On May 7, 2020, Governor Abbot modified his Executive Orders to eliminate confinement as a penalty for violation of his Executive Orders retroactive to April 2, 2020. It is necessary for City Council to modify the penalty provision for Ordinance No. 3645, temporary moratorium on all door-to-door solicitation activities and distribution of handbills. Staff recommends City Council approve Ordinance No. 3653.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve Ordinance No. 3653.