

CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** February 27, 2017

SUBJECT: Discussion of proposed changes to standards and regulations for
massage establishments

PRESENTER: Clayton Husband, Principal Planner

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

In 2016, an interdepartmental task force began discussing the rise in the number of massage establishments in the city. Through these discussions, the task force identified the need for possible revisions to the standards and regulations contained in Chapter 18 (Businesses) and Chapter 118 (Zoning) of the Code of Ordinances as they relate to massage establishments.

The existing regulations were created in the 1970s and do not reflect current industry standards and practices. An updated set of procedures and standards were developed based on the following key areas of improvement:

- Align definitions with State regulations;
- Replace the licensing requirement with the certificate of occupancy process;
- Update the general standards, sanitary requirements, and registration of customers;
- Delete outdated regulations related to industry standards and practice;
- Eliminate vague and redundant language.

The attached pages provide a complete copy of the proposed text for both Chapter 18 and Chapter 118 (Zoning) of the Code of Ordinances.

On February 3, 2017, a copy of the summary and proposed text was mailed to the 11 licensed massage establishments in North Richland Hills inviting them to provide feedback or comments on the recommended standards. Staff requested comments be provided by February 17, 2017. No comments have been submitted.

The proposed changes to the Code of Ordinances will be considered by City Council at the March 27, 2017 meeting. The Planning and Zoning Commission will consider the related zoning ordinance revision at the March 2, 2017 meeting.