



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** January 14, 2019
SUBJECT: Hearing on the Juvenile Curfew Ordinance – Ordinance No. 3561
PRESENTER: Jimmy Perdue, Director of Public Safety

SUMMARY:

On July 11, 1994, the North Richland Hills City Council unanimously passed Ordinance No. 1994 adopting a curfew for juveniles. Every three years, state law requires that the Ordinance either be abolished, continued, or modified. The North Richland Hills Police Department has found that the teen curfew ordinance has had a positive effect on the safety of our youth and has reduced the probability that unsupervised juveniles will become involved in crimes during late night and early morning hours.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Section 370.002 of the Local Government Code adopted by the 74th Legislature on May 31, 1995 requires that:

- (a) Before the third anniversary of the date of adoption of a juvenile curfew ordinance by a general-law municipality or a home-rule municipality or an order of a county commissioner's court, and every third year thereafter, the governing body of the general-law municipality or home rule municipality or the commissioner's court of the county shall:
 - (1) review the ordinance or order's effects on the community and on problems the ordinance or order was intended to remedy;
 - (2) conduct public hearings on the need to continue the ordinance or order; and
 - (3) abolish, continue, or modify the ordinance or order.
- (b) Failure to act in accordance with subsections (a)(1)–(3) shall cause the ordinance or order to expire.

The Police Department has observed that historically, the establishment and enforcement of a juvenile curfew has helped reduce juvenile victimization during curfew hours. The curfew ordinance defines curfew hours as 11:00 p.m. on any Sunday,



Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday until 6:00 a.m. the following day, and 12:01 a.m. until 6:00 a.m. on any Saturday or Sunday.

This is the first of two public hearings on the juvenile curfew ordinance. Staff recommends continuing the public hearing to January 28, 2019. Following the second public hearing, City Council will be asked to take action to approve the ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION:

Continue the public hearing on the Juvenile Curfew Ordinance to January 28, 2019.