



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** December 14, 2020
SUBJECT: Consider Ordinance No. 3680, extending the temporary moratorium on all door-to-door solicitation activities and distribution of handbills authorized by the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Article VII, Solicitors and Handbills.
PRESENTER: Alicia Richardson, City Secretary/Chief Governance Officer

SUMMARY:

City Council will consider an ordinance to extend the temporary moratorium on all door-to-door solicitation activities and distribution of handbills.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The City Council, at its May 4, 2020 meeting 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 COVID19. This moratorium remained in effect through June 8, 2020.

On December 5, 2020, Tarrant County Judge Glenn Whitley received notice from the Texas Department of State Health Services that Tarrant County is located in Trauma Service Area E which has now been identified as an area with high hospitalizations as defined by Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-32. An area with high hospitalizations is defined as "any Trauma Service Area that has had seven consecutive days in which the number of COVID-19 hospitalized patients as a percentage of total hospital capacity exceeds 15 percent, until such time as the Trauma Service Area has seven consecutive days in which the number of COVID-19 hospitalized patients as a percentage of total hospital capacity is 15 percent or less."

As a result, and pursuant to Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-32, restaurants, retailers and other businesses operating at 75 percent occupancy must immediately reduce occupancy to 50 percent.

Given the increase in the number of cases, and to limit in person contact with persons not in the same household, City Council approved Ordinance No. 3677 to establish a temporary moratorium on all door-to-door solicitation activities and distribution of handbills. The temporary moratorium shall expire at 11:59 p.m. on January 31, 2021, unless further action is taken by City Council.



Since the adoption of Ordinance No. 3677, the number of cases in Tarrant County have not declined. Staff brings forward an ordinance for consideration by City Council to extend the temporary moratorium. If approved, the temporary moratorium on all door-to-door solicitation activities and distribution of handbills shall expire at 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2021, unless further action is taken by City Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Ordinance No. 3680.