

BILL NO. _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR THE RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION OF BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS, TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR COMMUNICATION WITH AND FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, AND TO ESTABLISH EXPECTATIONS, DUTIES, AND NORMS OF BEHAVIOR FOR ALL APPOINTED CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AGENCIES AND COMMITTEES.

WHEREAS, Section 2.10 of the Independence City Charter permits the City Council to create boards, commissions, or committees as determined necessary; and,

WHEREAS, on February 20th, 2023, the Independence City Council adopted Resolution 6902, which established the 2023-2024 City of Independence Action Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Action Plan Section 1.2 *Community Engagement* encourages the City of Independence to “[b]roaden and deepen engagement of the community in city government, innovating methods for inviting input from the community and stakeholders” by “restructur[ing] or combin[ing] City boards and committees to more effectively advise the City and engage the public”; and,

WHEREAS, Action Plan Section 6 *High Performance Organization* states, “we operate as an ethical high-performance organization, anticipating future needs, utilizing best practices, and striving for continuous improvement”; and,

WHEREAS, on June 20th, 2023, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 6937, directing the City Manager to pursue efforts to consolidate City Boards and Commissions; and,

WHEREAS, in response to the directives of Resolution No. 6937, staff has determined that there are presently 35 active board and commissions comprised of 180 appointees; and,

WHEREAS, there is a nearly equal distribution between appointments that remain current through January 1st, 2023 (54%) as there are appointments that are vacant, expired, or will expire by December 31st, 2023 (46%); and,

WHEREAS, staff recommends utilizing four key pillars to bring the work of current boards and commissions together in a collaborative and unified process; and,

WHEREAS, the four key pillars are: Community Health & Safety, Administrative & Fiscal Oversight, Community Development, and Cultural Services; and,

WHEREAS, a consolidated structure of the current City boards and commissions would keep all the function of the current boards, align functions to the Action Plan, while also making boards more effective and efficient overall; and,

WHEREAS, the goals for this work includes streamlining board work, increasing transparency in the function and role of boards, improving collaboration between staff, boards, and the City Council, making boards more equitable and inclusive to all community members, and modernizing the board structure to a more sustainable model;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That, the City Manager shall develop recommendations regarding board and commission consolidation into four key pillars: Community Health & Safety, Administrative & Fiscal Oversight, Community Development, and Cultural Services.

SECTION 2. That the City Manager, through an engagement process with all board and commission chairs, shall work to collect input and have boards and commissions identify the pillar that represents the functions and work currently conducted by the existing board or commission. The goal is to ensure that the functions of current boards and commissions are reflected in these four boards.

SECTION 3. That the City Manager shall make recommendations to the City Council regarding board and commission consolidation by October 8th, 2023.

PASSED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2023, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

Presiding Officer of the City Council
of the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED - FORM AND LEGALITY:

City Counselor

REVIEWED BY:

City Manager