

Office of the City Manager

City of Richland Hills, Texas

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Bill Agan and members of the Richland Hills City Council
From: Eric Strong, City Manager
Date: June 21, 2016
Subject: Update on Potential Bamboo Ordinance

Council Action Requested:

No Action – Discussion only

Background Information:

Per the request of the City Council, staff has reviewed the potential reasons to consider an ordinance that would regulate the locate and or amount of allowable bamboo in the city limits. The following concerns were identified by staff as it relates to the public health and safety of residents and staff:

- Difficulty in determining house address when responding to an emergency
- Impact to access for paramedics with equipment and ambulance cot
- Impact to access for hoselines and water application with master stream devices
- Decreased visibility and inability to determine extent of fire conditions from a safe distance
- Risk of trip hazards and injury to personnel who fell in the area of bamboo shoots

- Risk of rats, snakes, and other vermin potentially harming personnel or being a nuisance to neighbors
- Difficulty in exiting the area in the event of deteriorating fire conditions or building collapse
- General health risks and sanitary conditions associated with excessive overgrowth of bamboo.

Staff has no recommendation at this time. We present this list for further discussion amongst the Council.

Board/Citizen Input: N/A

Financial Impact: N/A

Staff Contacts

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Attachments: N/A