



# City of El Lago CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM FORM

This form should be completed and forwarded to the City Secretary's Office as soon as possible and at least 1 week prior to the meeting that the item is expected to be placed on the El Lago City Council agenda.

Date requested for City Council consideration: May 23, 2016

Submitted by: Mayor White Date Submitted: May 12, 2016

Subject: Support Legislation for General Law Cities to Establish Child Safe Zones

City Attorney Review: Yes  No

Degree of importance: Critical  Significant  Elective

Expenditure From Account #: <u>None</u>	Fiscal Year: _____
Expenditure To Account #: <u>None</u>	Fiscal Year: _____
Expenditure Required: \$ <u>None</u>	Amount Budgeted: \$ _____

_____
Date Received
_____
Ann Vernon, City Secretary

### SUMMARY / ORIGINATING CAUSE

Earlier this year the City of El Lago received notice of an impending lawsuit to be filed by "Texas Voices of Justice and Reason" regarding our Ordinance 355 restricting sexual offenders from living within 1500 feet of our elementary schools and other places where children congregate. The premise of this lawsuit was an opinion from then Attorney General Gregg Abbott, who wrote that general law cities were not granted express authority by the State of Texas to restrict residency of sexual offenders. The City Council of El Lago voted not to repeal our SORRO ordinance on December 14, 2015 and stand with the other cities opposed to this infringement of our children's safety.

This resolution demonstrates concern to our State Congress that General Law Cities have, or should have the same ability to protect our children as larger "Home-rule cities.

### IMMINENT CONSEQUENCES AND/OR BENEFIT TO COMMUNITY

To gain support and urge the 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature to expressly grant the children of General law cities the same protection as the larger Home Rule cities.

### RECOMMENDED MOTION

To approve Resolution 2016-04 supporting the ability of General Law cities to protect and create child safety zones

### LIST ATTACHMENTS