

ORDINANCE NO. 1002

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, AMENDING THE LANCASTER MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING SECTIONS 2.24.070, 2.28.010, 2.28.030, 2.28.070, 2.30.030, 2.30.070, 2.34.030 AND 2.34.070, DELETING SECTIONS 2.30.090 AND 2.34.090, ADDING NEW SECTION 2.04.090 AND NEW CHAPTER 2.36 IN TITLE 2 (“ADMINISTRATIVE AND PERSONNEL”), AND BY AMENDING REFERENCES THROUGHOUT THE LANCASTER MUNICIPAL CODE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Lancaster finds and declares that several provisions in Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code concerning certain appointments and the terms of appointed commissioners require updating and revision; and

WHEREAS the City Council further finds and declares that Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code further requires revision by codifying provisions concerning the Lancaster Neighborhood Vitalization Commission; and

WHEREAS the City Council further finds and declares that numerous provisions throughout the Lancaster Municipal Code require updating to reference the Development Services Department of the City of Lancaster in lieu of the former Public Works Department;

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 2.24.070 of Chapter 2.24 (“Planning Commission”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**2.24.070 Absence from meetings.** If a commissioner is absent without cause from three regular meetings of the planning commission during any calendar year, the Mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the City Council, may deem said commissioner’s appointment immediately terminated, and may fill the vacancy in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 2. Section 2.28.010 of Chapter 2.28 (“Youth Commission”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**2.28.010 Creation.** There is created a youth commission for the City, composed of one or more commission members from each of the high schools located in the City and the adjacent unincorporated area known as Quartz Hill. Selection of commission members will be made by each respective school and approved by a majority of the City Council. The commission may appoint one ad hoc member from each of the middle schools located within the City. Such ad hoc members shall not have voting privileges.

SECTION 3. Subsection A of Section 2.28.030 of Chapter 2.28 (“Youth Commission”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**2.28.030 A.** Each commission member’s term shall be one year from the date of City Council approval. Notwithstanding said term, a commission member shall serve until a successor has been approved. The City Council may approve the reappointment of a commission member for additional terms.

SECTION 4. Section 2.28.070 of Chapter 2.28 (“Youth Commission”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**2.28.070 Absence from meetings.** If a commission member is absent without cause from three regular meetings of the youth commission during any calendar year, the Mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the City Council, may deem said commission member’s appointment immediately terminated, and may fill the vacancy in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 5. Section 2.30.030 of Chapter 2.30 (“Criminal Justice Commission”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**2.30.030 Term of office.** All commissioners of the criminal justice commission shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the City Council. Each commissioner’s term shall be one year commencing on January 1 of each year and ending on the following December 31. Notwithstanding said term, a commissioner shall serve until a successor has been appointed. A commissioner may be reappointed for additional terms. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, all commissioners serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and City Council.

SECTION 6. Section 2.30.070 of Chapter 2.30 (“Criminal Justice Commission”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**2.30.070 Absence from meetings.** If a commissioner is absent without cause from three regular meetings of the criminal justice commission during any calendar year, the Mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the City Council, may deem said commissioner’s appointment immediately terminated, and may fill the vacancy in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 7. Section 2.34.030 of Chapter 2.34 (“Architectural and Design Planning Commission”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**2.23.030 Term of office.** All commissioners of the architectural and design planning commission shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the City Council. Each commissioner’s term shall be one year commencing on January 1 of each year and ending on the following December 31. Notwithstanding said term, a commissioner shall serve until a successor has been appointed. A commissioner may be reappointed for additional terms. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, all commissioners serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and City Council.

SECTION 8. Section 2.34.070 of Chapter 2.34 (“Architectural and Design Planning Commission”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**2.34.070 Absence from meetings.** If a commissioner is absent without cause from three regular meetings of the architectural and design commission during any calendar year, the Mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the City Council, may deem said commissioner’s appointment immediately terminated, and may fill the vacancy in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 9. Section 2.30.090 of Chapter 2.30 (“Criminal Justice Commission”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby repealed.

SECTION 10. Section 2.34.090 of Chapter 2.34 (“Architectural and Design Planning Commission”) of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby repealed.

SECTION 11. Chapter 2.04 (“City Council”) of Title 2 of the Lancaster Municipal Code is amended by adding section 2.04.090 as follows:

**2.04.090 Mayor emeritus.** The Mayor, with the concurrence of a majority of the City Council, may appoint one or more persons who have previously served as Mayor of the City of Lancaster to act as a Mayor Emeritus. A Mayor Emeritus may represent the City during ceremonial and other events, when the Mayor and/or City Council members cannot attend. A Mayor Emeritus shall not have any authority to take any official actions on behalf of the Mayor or City Council without specific written authorization from the Mayor and/or City Council. A Mayor Emeritus shall serve for a term of two years from the date of appointment or until a successor has been appointed and approved. A Mayor Emeritus may be reappointed for additional terms.

SECTION 12. Title 2 (“Administrative and Personnel”) of the Lancaster Municipal Code is hereby amended by adding new Chapter 2.36 (“Neighborhood Vitalization Commission”), as follows:

**2.36.010 Creation.** There is created a neighborhood vitalization commission for the City composed of up to seven commissioners who shall be residents of the City or who shall be residents of the Antelope Valley and work within Lancaster city limits.

**2.36.020 Purpose.** The primary purpose of the neighborhood vitalization commission is to work with city council, city staff, citizens, community leaders, other government agencies and local organizations to facilitate stronger neighborhoods.

**2.36.030 Term of office.** All commissioners of the neighborhood vitalization commission shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the City Council. Each commissioner's term shall be one year commencing on January 1 of each year and ending on the following December 31. Notwithstanding said term, a commissioner shall serve until a successor has been appointed. A commissioner may be reappointed for additional terms. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, all commissioners serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and City Council.

**2.36.040 Chairman and vice chair.** The Mayor shall appoint one of the commissioners of the neighborhood vitalization commission as chairman to preside over the meetings, and shall appoint another commissioner to serve as vice-chair to preside in the absence of the chairman.

**2.36.050 Vacancy on the neighborhood vitalization commission.** Any vacancy occurring on the neighborhood vitalization commission shall be filled by an appointment made by the Mayor, subject to the approval of a majority of the City Council. Any person appointed to fill such vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term of the commissioner whose office has been vacated.

**2.36.060 Removal from office.** Whenever, in the opinion of the Mayor or a majority of the City Council, the best interests of the city shall be served thereby, any commissioner of the neighborhood vitalization commission may be removed from office by a majority vote of the city council.

**2.36.070 Absence from meetings.** If a commissioner is absent without cause from three regular meetings of the neighborhood vitalization commission during any calendar year, the Mayor, subject to approval of a majority of the City Council, may deem said commissioner's appointment immediately terminated, and may fill the vacancy in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

**2.36.080 Meetings.** The neighborhood vitalization commission shall hold one regular meeting per month, which meeting shall be held at the Lancaster City Hall Council Chamber, located at 44933 Fern Avenue, Lancaster, California. The timing and date of such meeting shall be established by a majority vote of the neighborhood vitalization commission.

**SECTION 13.** Wherever the phrase "public works department" or "department of public works" is used in this Code, such phrase shall be deemed and construed to mean "development services department" or "department of development services," respectively. Wherever the phrase "public works director" or "director of public works" is used in this Code, such phrase shall be deemed and construed to mean "development services director" or "director of development services," respectively.

I, Britt Avrit, CMC, City Clerk of the City of Lancaster, do hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was regularly introduced and placed upon its first reading on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015, and placed upon its second reading and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 by the vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
BRITT AVRIT, CMC  
City Clerk  
City of Lancaster

\_\_\_\_\_  
R. REX PARRIS  
Mayor  
City of Lancaster

STATE OF CALIFORNIA            )  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES    ) ss  
CITY OF LANCASTER            )

CERTIFICATION OF ORDINANCE  
CITY COUNCIL

I, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ City of Lancaster, California, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original Ordinance No. 1002, for which the original is on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(seal)