



City of San Marcos

630 East Hopkins
San Marcos, TX 78666

Special Meeting - Final City Council

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

5:20 PM

San Marcos Activity Center, Room 3

501 E Hopkins - Special Meeting

I. Call To Order

II. Roll Call

1. Consider approval of Resolution 2018-120R, supporting the reversal of the Department of Homeland Security's Family Separation Policies; and providing an effective date.

III. Adjournment.

POSTED ON FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2018 AT 3:30PM

JAMIE LEE CASE, CITY CLERK

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Legislation Text

File #: Res. 2018-120R, **Version:** 1

AGENDA CAPTION:

Consider approval of Resolution 2018-120R, supporting the reversal of the Department of Homeland Security's Family Separation Policies; and providing an effective date.

Meeting date: June 27, 2018

Department: City Council

Amount & Source of Funding

Funds Required: N/A

Account Number: N/A

Funds Available: N/A

Account Name: N/A

Fiscal Note:

Prior Council Action: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

City Council Strategic Initiative: [Please select from the dropdown menu below]

N/A

[Choose an item.](#)

[Choose an item.](#)

Comprehensive Plan Element (s): [Please select the Plan element(s) and Goal # from dropdown menu below]

- Economic Development - [Choose an item.](#)
- Environment & Resource Protection - [Choose an item.](#)
- Land Use - [Choose an item.](#)
- Neighborhoods & Housing - [Choose an item.](#)
- Parks, Public Spaces & Facilities - [Choose an item.](#)
- Transportation - [Choose an item.](#)
- Not Applicable

Master Plan: [Please select the corresponding Master Plan from the dropdown menu below (if applicable)]

Choose an item.

Background Information:

On June 11, 2018 during the 86th Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors Conference, the Criminal and Social Justice Committee proposed a Resolution “Reverse the Department of Homeland Security’s Family Separation Policies”. The Resolution was adopted as proposed. Mayor Thomaides was present to provide support for the Resolution as well.

This Special Meeting is being called by Mayor Thomaides following the request of Council Member Mihalkanin. Mayor Pro Tem Prewitt is also a sponsor of this item.

Council Committee, Board/Commission Action:

N/A

Alternatives:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Recommendation:

Click or tap here to enter text.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-120R

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN MARCOS, TEXAS SUPPORTING THE REVERSAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY'S FAMILY SEPARATION POLICIES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECITALS:

1. The City Council supports The U.S. Conference of Mayors' Resolution that was adopted during their 86th Annual Meeting on June 11, 2018. The adopted Resolution calls for the reversal of the Department of Homeland Security's Family Separation Policies.

2. The City Council feels that considerable attention has been paid to the plight of children at the Southern border and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has confirmed that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has separated more than 700 children from their parents since October 2017, including more than 100 children under age four.

3. The Department of Justice has adopted a "zero tolerance" policy toward individuals apprehended at the border, which calls for the prosecution of all migrants entering the United States outside of ports of entry and the resulting forced separation of many children from their families.

4. The new policy establishes that for parents and caregivers who are processed in the criminal court system and held in federal jails, their children will be classified as unaccompanied minors and housed in shelters awaiting placement with a US-based adult who can assume their care and if the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) cannot locate a US-based adult able to care for the child, the child will stay in federal custody, separated from family, indefinitely.

5. The number of children in HHS custody has grown by nearly 2,000 over the past month alone, shelters for migrant children are reportedly at 95 percent capacity, and HHS is preparing to add potentially thousands of beds in the coming weeks to accommodate the rising number of detained children.

6. Separating children from their families in this manner is inconsistent with American family values.

7. Many of these families are fleeing violence in their home countries, and it is inhumane to punish them for seeking safety and invoking their right to seek asylum.

8. By adopting a policy that forcibly separates immigrant families, DOJ and DHS fuel the climate of hostility experienced by many immigrants and refugees residing here, which causes many to feel alienated and avoid contact with government agencies, which impacts public safety.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN MARCOS, TEXAS:

PART 1. The City of San Marcos registers its strong opposition to separating children from their families at the border.

PART 2. The City of San Marcos acknowledges that President Donald J. Trump issued an Executive Order, "Affording Congress an Opportunity to Address Family Separation," on June 20, 2018, and urges Congress to take action immediately to ensure that the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security are prohibited from this wholesale separation of children from their families at the border.

PART 3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately from and after its passage.

ADOPTED on June 27, 2018.

John Thomaides
Mayor

Attest:

Jamie Lee Case
City Clerk