



**CITY OF HOUSTON - CITY COUNCIL**

Meeting Date: 12/8/2015

ALL

Item Creation Date: 12/1/2015

**ARA-Houston BARC Foundation Bylaws Update**

Agenda Item#: 28.

**Summary:**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS, RELATING TO THE BARC FOUNDATION; APPROVING THE AMENDED BYLAWS OF THE BARC FOUNDATION; CONTAINING FINDINGS AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE FOREGOING SUBJECT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Background:**

The Administration & Regulatory Affairs Department (ARA) recommends that City Council approve an ordinance to approve the Houston BARC Foundation's updated bylaws and requisite amendments to Chapter 6 of the City's Code Ordinances as well as confirming additional members to the Foundation's Board Directors.

The Houston BARC Foundation (Foundation) was created in 2010 as a nonprofit organization for the purpose of soliciting funds for the benefit of BARC, the ARA division responsible for the City's animal shelter, animal adoptions and enforcement of animal regulations.

To date, the Foundation has collected more than \$800,000 in donations in support of BARC to support the completion of the remaining phases of BARC's new adoption center. As it is estimated that an additional \$20 million in private contributions is needed to complete construction and build-out of the center, the Foundation is vital to the completion of BARC's adoption center and future operations.

Per the updated bylaws, the Foundation's Board of Directors shall consist of 25 members, to be nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by City Council, each serving two year terms. Additional board members will provide the Foundation greater opportunity to raise funding and awareness for BARC and Houston's homeless animal population throughout the community.

Additionally, the City will now maintain fidelity bonds in the amount of \$10,000 per board member (at a cost of under \$200 per member), consistent with the City's practice for other city nonprofit corporations (Houston Library Foundation and Houston Parks Board) charged with managing and investing significant dollar amounts.

The nominee's resumes are attached. Additional nominees and amendments to the Foundation's bylaws will be brought before City Council for confirmation as necessary.

**Departmental Approval Authority:**

**Tina Paez, Director  
Administration & Regulatory  
Affairs Department**

**Other Authorization**

**Contact Information:**

Lara Cottingham Phone: (832) 393-8503

Candice Gambrell Phone: (832) 395-9021