



Youth Membership on Boards and Commissions

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – June 25, 2024

City Staff Representative: Tawnya Russell, Youth Services Manager
Paula Acosta, Brighton Youth Commissioner

Department: Communications & Engagement

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The Brighton Youth Commission

The Brighton Youth Commission has been created to study, investigate, plan, implement and advise the City Council on matters related to youth.

In particular, the Commission is charged with developing and promulgating policies, programs and services that empower, support and inform youth; that create a family friendly community, and that enable and encourage youth to be productive members of the community.

The Commission shall serve as an advisory body to the City Council on all matters dealing with youth.

Brighton Youth Commission programs include:

- SPEAK Week
- Development opportunities
- Youth on City Boards



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Adoption of Ordinance 2385

- Adopted in 2022
- Amended residency requirements for membership on the Brighton Youth Commission
- Allowed individuals with significant ties with the City of Brighton, such as but not limited to attending secondary schools within the city, working at a business located within the city, or other evidence of substantial and significant ties to the City, to join the commission
- Increased membership capacity on the Brighton Youth Commission from 22 youth to unlimited seats based on staff capacity

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Growth in Brighton

- Since the original ordinance was created, Brighton has grown in population by about 50 percent
- In 2005, there were 11 middle and high schools in the School District 27J boundaries
- The district's total enrollment was 10,450
- In 2022, there were 17 middle and high schools
- The district's total enrollment is over 20,000

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Purpose of proposed changes

- To provide consistency between the Brighton Youth Commission and youth membership on all city boards and commissions.
- Currently, youth members of the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment, Historic Preservation Commission, and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board are required to reside within Brighton city limits.
- As background, these boards/commissions allow two Brighton Youth Commission members to serve at large for two-year terms. Youth serving on Parks and Recreation Advisory Board are allowed to vote.

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Recommended Updates:

- Amend Brighton Municipal Code to provide consistency between the Brighton Youth Commission and youth membership on all city boards and commissions

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