

RESOLUTION NO. 2848

A RESOLUTION REPEALING RESOLUTIONS 2318 AND 2715 AND COUNCIL POLICY 3-13

Findings

A. In 2001, by Resolutions 2318 and 2715 and Council Policy 3-13 the City Council established the Office of Neighborhood Associations, adopted provisions establishing roles and responsibilities for the Office, adopted recognition requirements and adopted recommended Bylaws for Neighborhood Associations. This action also provided for a facilitator and communicator role in Neighborhood Associations; as examples, the Office had the responsibility to respond to certain complaints and assist in the organizational development, maintenance and implementation of projects.

B. The City of Bend at one time had the financial resources to have an Office of Neighborhood Associations. However, these documents reference a Program that no longer exists at the City's current staffing level. Due to budget constraints, the City has laid off many employees in several City departments, including all employees of the Office of Neighborhood Associations. The City does not have the resources to provide more than minimal assistance to Neighborhood Associations, and does not foresee having such resources in the future.

C. Council recognizes that Neighborhood Associations provide a valuable tool for citizen involvement in the city government processes that affect their neighborhoods, and fully appreciates this role. However, they are more properly intended to be citizen-controlled organizations independent of City control. Neighborhood Associations provide independent citizen input into matters of public interest, particularly land use issues. Neighborhood Associations provide important inputs into land use processes and other City decision-making processes.

D. The Council finds that regulations related to Neighborhood Associations will be easier for citizens to find and are better suited to adoption within the City's Code, rather than implementation through Resolutions and Council Policy. Therefore, concurrent with this Repealing Resolution, Council intends to adopt Bend Code provisions that regulate the City's relationship with Neighborhood Associations. Those provisions will provide for recognition of Neighborhood Associations and will require reporting if the Neighborhood Association receives City funding, but will allow for greater independence for Neighborhood Associations than they currently employ.

E. Resolutions 2318 and 2715 and Council Policy 3-13 contain inconsistent provisions and do not reflect current Council policy towards Neighborhood Associations. Council policy is that Neighborhood Associations are independent organizations that provide a valuable forum for citizen input in matters of public interest, particularly land use matters.

Based on these findings,

THE CITY OF BEND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Resolutions 2318 and 2715 and Council Policy 3-13 are repealed. The Office of Neighborhood Associations is abolished. The Neighborhood Association Handbook previously published by the Office of Neighborhood Associations is no longer applicable.

Section 2. This resolution takes effect immediately on passage.

Adopted by roll call vote on August 17, 2011


YES: 5

NO: 2



Jeff Eager, Mayor

ATTEST:



Patricia Stell, City of Bend Recorder

Approved as to form:



Legal Counsel