

Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-2438, Agenda Item #: 190.

7/20/2023

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance establishing a police reserve force.

Lead Department

Police.

Fiscal Note This item has no fiscal impact.

For More Information:

Joseph Chacon, Chief of Police, Austin Police Department, (512) 974-5030.

Additional Backup Information:

This ordinance will establish a police reserve force for the Austin Police Department. Creation of a police reserve force is authorized by Texas Local Government Code section 341.012. The police chief shall have the authority to appoint members of the police reserve force. All members of the police reserve must be licensed peace officers and must meet the qualifications and standards established by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. The City Council must approve the appointment of reserve police officers before the person appointed may carry a weapon or otherwise act as a peace officer.

The total size of the police reserve force may not exceed 75 members. The police chief may call members into service at any time the police chief considers it necessary to have additional officers to preserve the peace and enforce the law. Reserve police officers may, however, act only in a supplementary capacity to the regular police force and may not assume the full-time duties of regular police officers. Members of the reserve police force will be temporary employees and serve at the discretion of the police chief.