

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM**: Dale Harwell, Director of Information Services

Jacob Speer, Director of Public Works

Patrick Baugh, Director of Community Development

**SUBJECT:** Consider Ordinance to Adopt Design Manual and Designate Design

Districts for the Installation of Network Nodes and Node Support Poles

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the ordinance is to adopt the Design Manual for the City of University Park and designate Design Districts.

## **DISCUSSION**

Senate Bill 1004 relates to the deployment of network nodes in the public right-of-way and authorizes fees. This law was enacted by Governor Greg Abbott on June 9<sup>th</sup> and will be effective on September 1<sup>st</sup>. The law amends the Local Government Code by adding Chapter 284 that regulates the deployment of small cellular network nodes by network providers including wireless carriers that directly service subscribers and companies that supply wireless carriers with network infrastructure.

As allowed by the law, staff has partnered with the City Attorney's Office, the Urban Design and Development Advisory Committee, and the Public Utilities Advisory Committee to craft a Design Manual in response to the new law. The Design Manual enables staff to meet its fiduciary duty to the citizens and gives assistance and guidance to network providers in the timely, efficient, safe, and aesthetically pleasing installation of network nodes and node support poles.

The Design Manual specifies that the City Council may designate an area as a Historic District or Design District at any time. The ordinance, as allowed by law, also designates current Design Districts for which the City maintains and enforces unique design and aesthetic standards on a uniform and nondiscriminatory basis.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the ordinance to adopt the Design Manual and designate current Design Districts.