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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City Council Approves Ordinances Allowing Tattoo Studios and Body Piercing Studios to Operate Within City Limits

TEMPLE, TX (October 21, 2016) – At its regularly scheduled meeting last night, the Temple City Council approved certain amendments to the City’s Code of Ordinances and Unified Development Code which will allow tattoo studios and body piercing studios to operate within the city limits. Council approved two ordinances, the first related to City Code, Chapter 16, Article VIII, and the second related to the City’s zoning regulations in its Unified Development Code. Since 1996, Chapter 16, Article VII, has prohibited the operation of a tattoo shop by anyone other than a licensed physician. Article 5 of the Unified Development Code also listed “tattoo parlor” as a prohibited use.

City Staff recommended deleting Chapter 16, Article VIII in its entirety and making several amendments to the Unified Development Code. The City Council approved both recommendations with certain changes. The approved amendments to the Unified Development Code include the following:

- Deleting “tattoo parlor” as a prohibited use
- Adding definitions for “Body Piercing,” “Body Piercing Studio,” “Tattoo,” and “Tattoo Studio”
- Allowing Tattoo Studios and Body Piercing Studios to locate in the General Retail, Commercial, Light Industrial, and Heavy Industrial zoning districts with the following limitations:
 - A studio may not be located within 1000 feet of another studio
 - A studio may not be located within 1000 feet of a school, public or private
 - A studio may not be located within 1000 feet of a church
 - A studio may not be located on property within the I-35 Corridor Overlay or any designated Strategic Investment Zone Grant Corridor
 - In the General Retail zoning district, a Studio may not be located within 200 feet of the following zoning districts: Urban Estates, Single-Family Dwelling 1, 2, & 3, Single-Family Attached Dwelling 1, 2, & 3, Two-Family Dwelling, and Townhouse
 - A handwashing sink is required that is separate from a restroom sink.

The amendments are effective immediately.

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