

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: December 21, 2018

To: The City Manager

From: Damon Dequenne, Assistant City Manager,
Aaron King, Director of Planning and Development Services

Council Action Requested: UDO-288 Electronic Sweepstakes Operations

Strategic Focus Area: Livable Neighborhoods

Strategic Objective: Improve Character and Condition of Neighborhoods

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:

This zoning text amendment is proposed by the Winston-Salem City Attorney’s Office to amend Chapters A & B of the *Unified Development Ordinances* (UDO) to modify the use of Electronic Sweepstakes Operations in the City of Winston-Salem.

On December 16, 2013, City Council approved UDO-243, which amended the Unified Development Ordinances to allow Electronic Sweepstakes Operations as a permitted use in Highway Business (HB) zoning districts. UDO-288 proposes modifying the current Electronic Sweepstakes Operations use in order to clarify the current regulations for these types of businesses operating within the City. Sweepstakes operations that pay out awards in cash are in violation of North Carolina state criminal law, and as such, the Inspections Division has not been issuing permits to the businesses who engage in this practice in the City. The current UDO language does not make the limitation clear.

Committee Action:

Committee _____

Action _____

For _____

Against _____

Remarks:

In order to align the UDO with the City's practice and current state criminal law, the proposed ordinance change would clarify that permits will not be issued to sweepstakes operations which award cash prizes. If, on the other hand, a business wished to award prizes in the form of merchandise with a value of ten dollars or less, the business would be classified as Recreation Services, Indoor. Staff believes the proposed amendment will help clarify the current rules for such operations.