

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Planning and Development Services

TO: David L. Corliss, City Manager

FROM: Michelle Leininger, AICP, Planner II

CC: Scott McCullough, Planning and Development Services Director
Sheila Stogsdill, Assistant Planning Director

Date: May 28, 2013

RE: Fence Regulations

Please place on the next available City Commission agenda.

Background

The city's fence regulations generally date back to 1979 and it has been identified by staff that the code regulations could be improved to benefit the City of Lawrence. The bulk of the regulations are located in Chapter 16 of the City Code with a few regulations included in the *Land Development Code*, Chapter 20 of the City Code. The current standards are located within different chapters of the City Code, they are difficult to interpret, and are lacking in standards relating to maintenance, and aesthetics. Additionally, processes for variances from the standards are confusing to residents. Standards located in the *Land Development Code* are subject to the Board of Zoning Appeals variance process and standards in Chapter 16 of the City Code are subject to the Building Official variance process.

Staff feels that a review of the fence regulations is necessary. Staff will review the regulations and propose changes in order to improve the regulations to make them clearer and more user friendly.

Action Requested

Initiate a text amendment to the Lawrence City Code, Chapters 16 and 20, regarding fence code regulations and refer the amendments to the Planning Commission for a public hearing at a date to be determined.