

ORDINANCE NO. 2676

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMMERCE CITY REVISED MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE III ESTABLISHING THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND INNOVATION COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the City of Commerce City (“City”), by and through the City Council of the City of Commerce City (“City Council”), on June 7, 2021, approved and adopted Resolution 2021-38, establishing the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (“EPAC”);

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2023, the City Council extended indefinitely the establishment of the EPAC as a standing committee by way of Resolution 2023-008;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 11.1 of the City Charter, the City Council is authorized to create boards and commissions and appoint members to such boards and commissions as set forth in the Charter, the Commerce City Revised Municipal Code (“CCRMC”), and the City of Commerce City Council Policies;

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to convert EPAC to a formally recognized commission known as the Environmental Policy and Innovation Commission (“EPIC”) that shall be codified in Chapter 2, Article III of the Commerce City Revised Municipal Code;

WHEREAS, the City is committed to protecting the public health, safety, and welfare of its residents;

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of environmental innovation and sustainable economic development that supports the City’s local businesses while ensuring a non-toxic, resilient future for City residents;

WHEREAS, the City has numerous industrial sites located near residential areas and it is essential to mitigate their negative health and environmental impacts on the community;

WHEREAS, fostering collaboration among City residents, businesses, environmental experts, and policymakers is crucial to developing forward-thinking environmental policies and solutions for the City; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of EPIC as a formally recognized commission will provide a more structured approach to identifying and addressing the City’s environmental concerns while encouraging economic growth through sustainable practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Findings. The recitals to this ordinance are incorporated as findings of the City Council. This ordinance is found to be necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare and in the public interest.

SECTION 2. Commission Established. A commission to be known as the Environmental Policy and Innovation Commission (“EPIC”) is hereby established pursuant to Section 11.1 of the City Charter.

SECTION 3. Functions. EPIC shall advise the City Council by identifying and recommending strategies to mitigate the negative effects of industrial activities on Commerce City residents; identifying ways to support and promote City businesses that adopt non-toxic, sustainable, and environmentally friendly practices; identify cutting-edge technologies and policies that the City may consider to improve environmental quality and community well-being; facilitate community engagement, transparency, and education on environmental issues while identifying potential solutions; provide policy, regulation, and incentive recommendations to City Council that may be considered to support the City’s environmental and economic goals; monitor the City’s environmental initiatives and report findings to the City Council; and host informational events and seminars.

SECTION 4. Membership. The City Council shall appoint up to fifteen (15) commission members as follows: up to eleven (11) regular voting members; two (2) alternates; and two (2) City Council members.

SECTION 5. Appointment & Terms. Except for vacancies in unexpired terms, which shall be filled in accordance with the Charter, the appointment of City Council members whose terms shall coincide with the organization meetings of the City Council, and any appointments made to ensure the appropriate staggering of terms, members shall be appointed for a period of three (3) years and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms or until a successor has been appointed. Members of the current EPAC shall convert to being members of EPIC and shall complete their terms accordingly.

SECTION 6. Meetings. EPIC shall meet as necessary to perform its duties. Notice of any meeting of the commission, and the agenda for such meeting, shall be posted on the City’s website.

SECTION 7. Quorum. Six (6) regular voting members or alternates plus one (1) City Council member shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 8. Applicability of Charter and Council Policies. The Committee and its membership and appointments shall be subject to the requirements of the City Charter, as amended, the Commerce City Revised Municipal Code, as amended, and applicable Council Policies, as amended.

SECTION 9. Repealer. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this ordinance or any portion hereof are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 10. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage on second and final reading.

INTRODUCED, PASSED ON FIRST READING AND PUBLIC NOTICE ORDERED
THIS 7TH DAY OF APRIL 2025.

PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING AND PUBLIC NOTICE ORDERED
THIS 5TH DAY OF MAY 2025.

CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO

Steve J. Douglas, Mayor

ATTEST

Dylan A. Gibson, City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

*****BEGIN*****

Sec. 2-3009. Environmental Policy and Innovation Commission

(a) *Powers.* EPIC shall advise the City Council by identifying and recommending strategies to mitigate the negative effects of industrial activities on Commerce City residents; identifying ways to support and promote City businesses that adopt non-toxic, sustainable, and environmentally friendly practices; identify cutting-edge technologies and policies that the City may consider to improve environmental quality and community well-being; facilitate community engagement, transparency, and education on environmental issues while identifying potential solutions; provide policy, regulation, and incentive recommendations to City Council that may be considered to support the City's environmental and economic goals; monitor the City's environmental initiatives and report findings to the City Council; and host informational events and seminars.

(b) *Composition and qualifications.* The City Council shall appoint up to fifteen (15) commission members as follows: up to eleven (11) regular voting members; two (2) alternates; and two (2) City Council members.

(c) *Terms of office.* Except for vacancies in unexpired terms, which shall be filled in accordance with the Charter, the appointment of City Council members whose terms shall coincide with the organization meetings of the City Council, and any appointments made to ensure the appropriate staggering of terms, members shall be appointed for a period of three (3) years and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms or until a successor has been appointed. Members of the EPAC shall convert to being members of EPIC and shall complete their terms accordingly.

(d) *Meetings.* EPIC shall meet as necessary to perform its duties. Notice of any meeting of the commission, and the agenda for such meeting, shall be posted on the City's website.

(e) *Quorum.* Six (6) regular voting members or alternates plus one (1) City Council member shall constitute a quorum.

*****END*****