

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 29, 2012**

**CONTACT: John M. Taylor**  
**[\(903\) 805-4140](tel:9038054140)**  
**[jtaylor@chandlertx.com](mailto:jtaylor@chandlertx.com)**

## **Chandler Prepares for Possible Local Alcohol Option Election in November**

### ***Local Ordinance Would Tighten Alcohol Rules***

**CHANDLER, TEXAS** – At the same time a petition is being circulated to call for a local alcohol option election in November, the City of Chandler is considering a local ordinance to lessen any negatively perceived impacts on the city.

If the petition and the election in November are successful alcohol sales by the drink would be allowed in restaurants and the sale of beer and wine would be allowed in grocery and convenience stores. There would not be an option on the ballot to allow liquor stores in the city.

To be proactive Chandler is proposing the ordinance be drafted to regulate the sale of alcohol in the city in the following ways:

#### Off Premise Alcohol Sales

- Stand-alone beer and wine stores would not be allowed. The sale of alcoholic beverages for Off-Premises Consumption would only be permitted by Neighborhood Convenience Centers that derive fifteen percent or more of its gross revenue from the sale of non-alcoholic products and products not subject to motor fuel tax. Neighborhood Convenience Centers are defined as a retail establishment which carries convenience goods, such as groceries, drugs, and some variety items, including grocery stores, markets, supermarkets, convenience stores and variety stores.
- Neighborhood Convenience Centers would only be permitted in commercial zoning and would not be allowed to have drive-thru alcohol sales.

#### On-Premise Alcohol Sales

- The sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption would only be permitted by restaurants or hotel/motels which hold a food and beverage certificate and the restaurant or hotel/motel's revenue from the sale of alcoholic beverages is less than fifty percent of its gross revenue. Such uses would only be permitted in commercial zoning districts.

#### Distance Separation

- There would be a 300 foot separation required between off-premise alcohol sales and churches and schools. However, the City Council may approve a variance to the distance requirements.
- A person may not possess an open container or consume an alcoholic beverage on a public street, public alley, public sidewalk or public park which is also within 1000 feet of the property line of a facility that is a public or private school.

### City Parks

- A person may not possess an open container or consume an alcoholic beverage in a public park unless an event is duly authorized by the City Council and held in compliance with all other applicable provisions of this ordinance.

### Signage

- Outdoor advertising for the sale or consumption of an alcoholic beverage would not be allowed within the city limits.
- Signs for the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages or other forms of advertisement inside the alcoholic beverage establishment would not be allowed if it can be viewed from a public street.

This ordinance will go to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a public hearing on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM and to City Council on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. This ordinance will help alleviate some of the concerns that have been expressed by some Chandler residents and will help safeguard the city's small-town, family atmosphere.

###