



City of Simpsonville Youth Advisory Board Memorandum for Resolution

Prepared by Justin Lee Campbell, Community Relations Specialist

- I. **Purpose:** The purpose of the City of Simpsonville Youth Advisory Board is to give young people a voice through an active role in their city government while teaching them how local government works.
 - a. Simpsonville City Council wants to hear from the youth of Simpsonville about issues affecting them.
 - b. Simpsonville City Council wants to encourage civic engagement to prepare the future leaders of Simpsonville.
- II. **Function:** The primary role of the Youth Advisory Board is advising City Council on issues that affect young people in the city. Advising includes feedback on actions taken by Council, bringing issues to the attention of Council and helping find solutions for said issues.
 - a. A secondary role of the Board is creating initiatives to address specific issues either identified by the Board or Council. The Board carries out projects of their choice to help solve or bring awareness to critical issues affecting young people.
 - b. The Board acts as any other board or commission does and is treated with the same seriousness.
- III. **Autonomy:** The Youth Advisory Board has the autonomy to choose the issues they would like to address, form a mission statement and vision, set their meeting schedules and create guidelines and rules.
- IV. **City Council Role:** Simpsonville City Council acknowledges and respects the independence of the Youth Advisory Board. Council can also give direction and assign tasks, such as researching an issue, to maintain a working relationship with the Board.
 - a. Council may create rules, guidelines and qualifications to ensure the Board fulfills its purpose and function.
 - b. Council can teach young people about city government, model government in action for the students and exemplify leadership.
- V. **City Government Education:** The Youth Advisory Board learns how city government works, including organization and function of the elected officials and departments.
- VI. **Qualifications:** The baseline qualifications for serving on the Youth Advisory Board are residing in the City of Simpsonville, attending a public or private school and having an interest in public service.