



**CITY OF TYLER
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

Agenda Number: R-2

Date: January 10, 2007

Subject: Request that the City Council consider adopting a Resolution approving participation in the Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation coalition with other Northeast Texas cities to engage a firm to monitor and represent the coalition's interests in the next Legislative session related to non-deregulation issues, as well as authorizing the City's initial payment of a maximum of \$5,000 for participation in and services provided through coalition participation.

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Item Reference: The Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation coalition has invited the City of Tyler to participate in the coalition, which consists of a number of Northeast Texas cities undertaking an effort to ensure the interests of its members are well represented in the next Legislative session by engaging the representation of the Ratliff group on non-deregulation issues.

Background

The Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation (CARD) group consists of a number of cities including Longview, Texarkana, Marshall, Kilgore, Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson, Atlanta, Gilmer, Gladewater, Mineola, Pittsburg, Tatum and Winssboro. Representatives of the currently-existing CARD coalition are endeavoring to engage a firm to ensure the interests of the cities in the Northeast Texas area are protected during the next Legislative. The Ratliff group is the recommended firm to provide such representation to the coalition on non-deregulation issues.

Participation in the Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation (CARD) coalition

Representation by the Ratliff group will be provided to the coalition primarily on a retainer basis, and the expense of such representation has been estimated by the Ratliff group at a cost of \$15,000. The coalition has requested the cooperation of its member cities along with the City of Tyler in engaging the services of the Ratliff group and requests that the costs of such representation be borne by participating cities based on their proportionate populations. It is estimated that if all member cities and the City of Tyler participate in engaging the Ratliff group, the cost of such representation to the City of Tyler would be approximately one-third of the total expense. The coalition is requesting an initial maximum participation payment of \$5,000 from the City of Tyler.

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RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a Resolution approving participation in the Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation (CARD) coalition with other Northeast Texas cities to engage a firm to monitor and represent the coalition's interests in the next Legislative session as further described in the Resolution.

Drafted/Recommended By: *Gary C. Landers*
Department Leader Gary C. Landers, City Attorney

Edited/Submitted By:
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. R-2007-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION IN THE CITIES ADVOCATING REASONABLE DEREGULATION COALITION (CARD) WITH OTHER NORTHEAST TEXAS CITIES TO ENGAGE A FIRM TO MONITOR AND REPRESENT THE COALITION'S INTERESTS IN THE NEXT LEGISLATIVE SESSION RELATED TO NON-DEREGULATION ISSUES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY'S INITIAL PAYMENT OF \$5,000 FOR PARTICIPATION IN AND SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH COALITION PARTICIPATION; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on or about January 9, 2007 the Texas Legislature convenes for the 80th Legislature Regular Session; and

WHEREAS, it is considered to be in City of Tyler's best interests to join with other Northeast Texas cities to participate in the Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation (CARD) coalition to ensure the interests of the cities in the Northeast Texas area are protected during the next Legislative session, and

WHEREAS, The CARD coalition has requested cooperation from the City of Tyler and its member cities to engage the Ratliff group to monitor and represent the coalition's interests in the next Legislative session related to non-deregulation issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS:

PART 1: That the City of Tyler, Texas (hereinafter "City") is authorized to coordinate with other cities in a coalition of cities known as Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation (CARD) and authorizes the coalition to engage a firm to monitor and represent the coalition's interests in the next Legislative session related to non-deregulation issues.

PART 2: That the City is authorized to make an initial payment of \$5,000 for services provided through coalition participation.

PART 3: That this resolution shall be effective on and after its date of passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 10th day of January, 2007.

JOSEPH O. SEEBER, MAYOR OF
THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

CASSANDRA BRAGER, CITY CLERK

GARY C. LANDERS CITY ATTORNEY