



**City of Rochester Hills
AGENDA SUMMARY
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS**

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Legislative File No: 2008-0397

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: Vern Pixley, Council Member and RHGYC Liaison
DATE: July 30, 2008
SUBJECT: Appointment of 2008/2009 Rochester Hills Government Youth Council

City Council at its Regular Meeting of March 16, 2005 adopted Resolution RES0080-2005 establishing the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC) to promote youth involvement in local government through active participation and the mutual exchange of ideas and experiences. The RHGYC composition includes thirteen (13) members appointed by City Council following the established Application/Appointment Process, which will consist of (2) representatives from each City Council District and five (5) at-large representatives.

This year we are very pleased to mention that we received 33 applications that met the minimum qualifications to be considered. Of the 33 applications received, six (6) were from current Youth Council Members requesting to be re-appointed to an additional term on the Council.

The established Application/Appointment process included the following:

- Submission of application packet by interested students which included the following:
 - ✓ Application
 - ✓ Essay Questions
 - ✓ Two Letters of Recommendation
- Interviews by the Interview Team consisting of City Council Member Vern Pixley, City Clerk Jane Leslie, City Council Coordinator Leanne Scott, and two (2) Senior Youth Representatives, Kristina Hurst and Dalina Ivezaj who are currently serving on the Youth Council

All thirty-three students participated in the interview process. The interview team evaluated the candidates on application quality, adult references, interview and representation.

While we are very happy to see the interest in serving on the RHGYC increase, it makes the final selection process very difficult. Each applicant was extremely bright and pleasant, and could bring something different and unique to the group. In the end, however, the Interview Team took into account the composition of the RHGYC (district representation), school representation and the number in each graduating year, and we are recommending to Council that they appoint fifteen (15) students to the Youth Council again this year. This will allow the six returning students to mentor the nine new students. The nine new students are an equitable representation of Council districts and grades, allowing for ongoing participation and mentoring within the program. The terms of office will be for one (1) year coinciding with the school calendar year beginning on September 1, 2008 and expiring on August 31, 2009.

If all fifteen students were appointed, the representation would be as follows:

- CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS
 - District 1 – Three (3) representatives
 - 2 returning students
 - 1 new students
 - District 2 – Three (3) representatives
 - Zero returning students
 - 3 new students
 - District 3 – Five (5) representatives
 - 3 returning students
 - 2 new students
 - District 4 – Four (4) representatives
 - 1 returning student
 - 3 new students

- SCHOOLS
 - ACE – 1 representative
 - Adams – 1 representative
 - Avondale – 2 representatives
 - Cranbrook – 1 representative
 - International Academy – 2 representatives
 - Notre Dame Prep – 1 representative
 - Rochester – 6 representatives
 - Stoney Creek – 1 representative

- SCHOOL GRADES 2008/2009
 - Ninth Grade – 2 students
 - Tenth Grade – 4 students
 - Eleventh Grade – 2 students (1 returning)
 - Twelfth grade – 7 students (5 returning)

Application materials are available in the Clerk's Office if you are interested in reviewing them. A resolution for your consideration appointing the fifteen students is included in the packet.

Please note that at the August 11th Council Meeting the 2007/2008 RHGYC members will be providing their final report to City Council and the 2008/2009 RHGYC members will be sworn in.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.