



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

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**Legislative File No:** 2007-0031

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members  
**FROM:** Barbara Holder, City Council Vice President  
**DATE:** January 12, 2007  
**SUBJECT:** Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC)

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RHGYC Council Members were non-voting members on Council's Communication Committees. With the dissolution of those Committees, I am proposing that Council provide a different venue for their participation by allowing a Youth Council Member to join Council at the dais for City Council Meetings and Work Sessions as a non-voting member.

Council has established the Youth Council to promote youth involvement in local government through active participation and the mutual exchange of ideas and experience. By allowing the Youth to participate in City Council meetings it provides an effective and meaningful channel for them to participate in local government as well as provides a great educational opportunity.

In working with the Clerk's Office and reviewing the history of the RHGYC we have found that because this is a new program that has evolved over the last few years, changes have been made regularly to improve the program. This becomes a cumbersome process for Council to make these changes because the program is strictly outlined in various resolutions. As a means of providing a more efficient way of operating and providing a little leeway to handle day-to-day issues that may arise, it is being suggested that Council adopt a policy that outlines the guidelines for the operations of the Youth Council. In reviewing the proposed Policy, you will see that it addresses some issues that Council has faced in the past such as:

- Provides flexibility in the Interview Team selection
- Provides the ability for Council to increase or decrease the number of representatives based on the recommendation of the Interview Team without having to adopt a separate resolution

In addition it puts all of the parameters for the RHGYC in one document.

If Council is in agreement with allowing a Youth Council member to participate in the Council meetings and Work Sessions and with the proposed Policy setting forth the Guidelines for the RHGYC, the Clerk's Office will prepare the necessary resolutions to adopt the Policy and amend the RHGYC Bylaws to implement these changes.

If approved the RHGYC, at its February Meeting will put a schedule together indicating which RHGYC Members will be attending Council Meetings and/or Work Sessions.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

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**NEXT AGENDA ITEM**

**RETURN TO AGENDA**

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