

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION
MARCH 3, 2015 AGENDA**

Subject:	Action Required:	Approved By:
<p>An ordinance amending Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code §32-546 to clarify the definition of <i>public assembly</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">√ Ordinance Resolution Approval Information Report</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bruce T. Moore City Manager</p>

SYNOPSIS	<p>On September 18, 2001, the Board of Directors passed Little Rock Ordinance No. 18,569, which provided for, among other things, a permitting process for parades and public assemblies. The definition of public assembly did not contain a specified number of persons required to meet the definition of the term consistent with court decisions in existence at the time of the passage of the ordinance. This amendment clarifies the definition of public assembly.</p>
FISCAL IMPACT	<p>None.</p>
RECOMMENDATION	<p>Approval of the ordinance.</p>
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION	<p>N/A</p>
BACKGROUND	<p>Since the passage in 2001 of the ordinance that addresses the permit process for parades and public assemblies, subsequent court decisions have found that it is appropriate to specify the number of persons required to constitute a public assembly. Clarification of the number of persons required to meet the definition of a public assembly will assist the City Department responsible for issuing permits for public assemblies, and ensure that the City's Code is consistent with the most recent court decisions.</p>

**BACKGROUND
CONTINUED**

The amendment specifies that a public assembly is defined as any meeting, demonstration, picket line, rally or gathering of more than twenty (20) persons for a common purpose as a result of prior planning that interferes with the normal flow or regulation of pedestrian or vehicular traffic or occupies any public area in a place open to the general public.