

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 3:58:17 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 9:59 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 - 09:58

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Brian

Last Name: Passwaters

Title: Community Services Manager

Organization you are affiliated with: City of Carrollton

City: Carrollton

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or
Opposed:
June 24, 2014

RE: DSHS Sunset Review of Code Enforcement Program

Committee members I appreciate the opportunity to submit the following comments regarding the DSHS Sunset Review relating to termination of the Code Enforcement Registration/Licensing Program. I am writing on behalf of the City of Carrollton, a community of 125,000 residents, which is a northern suburb of the City of Dallas, which straddles Dallas, Denton and Collin County. Carrollton believes it is important to continue the required registration of code enforcement officers with the state along with the required training elements and ongoing continuing education requirements needed for individuals within the code enforcement profession. Therefore, the City of Carrollton respectfully opposes the Sunset Commissions to deregulate the Code Enforcement Officer Program and license requirement indicated by the commissioners in Recommendation 3.1 of the commission's report.

The City of Carrollton employs a total eleven (11) code enforcement officers who are vital to protecting the health and safety of the citizens and visitors to our community. The code enforcement officers employed by Carrollton perform including nuisance abatement (ie high grass, trash, illegal dumping, etc.), residential and commercial building codes, dangerous building abatement, zoning code enforcement and rental property inspection and enforcement. The code enforcement officers serve the city as the first line of defense against urban blight and decay, and the accompanying dangers to the health and safety of the public.

Being licensed and registered through the state the code enforcement officer develops a strong knowledge of various state and city laws along with the required procedures needed to abate the hazards to the public.

The Carrollton City Council has for many years made code enforcement a priority within our community at the behest of the citizens they represent.

The citizens and council recognize the importance of preventing blight in the community and protecting the property values of the owners and insuring the safety of the public.

For the code enforcement officers to perform their duties not only in our community but other cities within the state, requires minimum qualifications, standards and training requirements. It would be short sighted of the state to remove these requirements after recognizing the importance of these same standards when the registration and licensing program was adopted by the state in 1993. Terminating the code enforcement program would eliminate the training requirements and certifications which various municipalities and jurisdictions seek for their code enforcement officers.

The City of Carrollton would support the transfer of the Code Enforcement Program from DSHS to TDLR. This would be in line with the transfer of the Sanitarian Program from DSHS to TDLR.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our comments. If you should have any questions regarding the comments please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Brian Passwaters
Community Services Manager
Environmental Services
City of Carrollton

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The City of Carrollton would support the transfer of the Code Enforcement Program from DSHS to TDLR.

This would be in line with the transfer of the Sanitarian Program from DSHS to TDLR.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree