



General Government and Planning Committee

May 9, 2023

Summary and Motions

Chair Worley called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Vice Mayor Wu and Committee Members J. Brown, Ellinger, Lynch, LeGris, Sheehan, Baxter, Reynolds, Plomin were in attendance. Council Members Fogle and Gray were also present as non-voting members.

I. March 7, 2023 General Government and Planning Committee Summary

Motion by Ellinger to approve the March 7, 2023 GGP Committee Summary. Seconded by Baxter. Motion passed without dissent.

II. Conditional Use Permits and Related ZOTAs in the Rural Service Area

Autumn Goderwis from the Division of Planning presented on behalf of the item. Goderwis gave the definition and examples of conditional uses and zone change text amendments (ZOTAs). The data presented includes applications for conditional use permits and ZOTAs requested with an impact on the A-R zone from 2018-2023. She reviewed the types of conditional use permit applications that were approved since 2018. She reviewed the ZOTAs that have been approved since 2018.

Plomin expressed interest in receiving this data for the entire Rural Service Area and not just the A-R zone. A brief discussion ensued how the decision to approve a ZOTAs or conditional use permit is made. There were a couple clarifying questions about what entities initiated the A-R ZOTAs. Four ZOTAs were initiated by Planning Commission and four were initiated by applicants outside of government. The Board of Adjustment's authority is found in state law and is based in KRS 100. There is an acreage requirement for the agricultural market conditional use.

No action was taken on this item.

III. Crown Act

Tiffany Brown, LFUCG's Equity and Implementation Officer, presented on behalf of this item. The CROWN (Create a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) Act is legislation that protects against discrimination based on natural hair texture and protective styles. Legislation has been signed into law in 21 states. It was first introduced in California in 2019. There have been 44 municipalities that have passed legislation against hair discrimination. In 2014, the United States Army banned locs but in 2017 reversed that decision. Research was conducted by the JOY Collective for Dove and the CROWN Coalition in 2019.

According to the study, Black women's hair is 3.4 times more likely to be perceived as unprofessional. Additionally, Black women are 30% more likely to be made aware of formal workplace appearance policies and are 1.5 times more likely to be sent home from work because of their hair. The CROWN Coalition and JOY Collective for Dove conducted another study in 2021 that focused on girls aged 5-18 years old. Some of the results include: 53% of Black mothers say their daughters have experienced racial discrimination based on hairstyles as early as five years old, which increases to 100% by the age of ten (in predominantly-White schools); 66% of Black children in majority-White schools have faced race-based hair discrimination; 81% of Black children in majority-White schools say they sometimes wish their hair was straight.

The CROWN Act was proposed in Kentucky at the state level in 2022 (pre-filed in 2021). Representative Attica Scott was a sponsor of HB31. Covington, Louisville and Frankfort are the other Kentucky cities/municipalities with CROWN Act ordinances. In Lexington, there is The CROWN Mural in Julietta Market.

The Human Rights Commission (HRC) in Lexington will be the entity that enforces this ordinance. There is no jurisdiction over private schools or in a university setting. Fayette County Public Schools has their own way to report discrimination. The ordinance protects people in places of employment, public accommodation, and housing. Individuals who are experiencing discrimination will file a charge with the HRC and the HRC will investigate that charge. Enforcement will depend on what the discrimination is alleged. The committee expressed unanimous support for this ordinance.

Lynch made a motion to approve the CROWN Act. Seconded by Ellinger. The motion passed unanimously.

Reynolds made a motion to report the CROWN Act out at the May 9th, 2023 work session. Seconded by Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Items Referred to Committee

No action was taken on this item.

Motion by Worley to adjourn at 1:48 p.m. Seconded by Plomin. Motion passed without dissent.