

## Summary of proposed changes to the Denver Code of Ethics

- In the legislative intent, adds “honesty, integrity and accountability” to the conduct expected of city officers, officials and employees;
- Adds “business loan” to the list of direct official actions;
- Adds father- and mother-in-law, son- or daughter-in-law, brother- or sister-in-law, aunt, uncle, nephew and niece to the definition of immediate family;
- Establishes a three-person nominating committee to solicit and screen applicants for any vacancy on the Board of Ethics, with one member each appointed by the Presiding Judge of Denver County Court, the Mayor and the City Council;
  - Nominating committee forwards at least three candidates to the appointing authority, which has the option to reject them and ask for new slate
- Requires a board member to recuse him/herself when a complaint involves a person to whom the member made contributions in a city political campaign;
- Requires an appointing authority to report in a board executive session, when requested, regarding any action taken if a board advisory opinion is not followed, or after the board has recommended corrective action;
- Clarifies that employees should seek waivers from an ethics code provision before taking the action in question;
- Board decisions will be posted on its website;
- Changes the current limitation of up to four meals or event tickets/admissions per year from a source over whom the employee, official or officer exercises direct official action, to an annual cumulative limitation of \$300;
  - Exempts from this limitation meals or refreshments available to all attendees at public meetings; meals provided incidentally during board meetings of governmental, civic or non-profit organizations of which the covered person is a board member; tickets to charitable events that are offered directly by the charity that is hosting the event
- Prohibits acceptance of cash and gift cards from donors over whom the receiver exercises direct official action;
- Prohibits solicitation of donations of donations for third-party charities from donors over whom the requesting person exercises direct official action;