

Amendments to the Denver Code of Ethics

Sponsored by Councilman Kevin Flynn

Finance and Governance Committee

April 6, 2021



Denver Auditor Report

- February 2020
- **The Board of Ethics' Insufficient Authority and Role May Impact the City's Ethical Environment**
 - Gaps in the board's authority could impact employees' willingness to report.
 - The board is not adequately informed of and incorporated into the city's ethics program.



Follow-up

- Meetings with Auditor O'Brien and Board of Ethics to discuss recommendations
- Draft ordinance drawn up collaboratively with Board of Ethics and its Director
- Draft circulated to Council Members
- Several adjustments and clarifications



CB 21-0401 Provisions

- Board authority to accept and investigate anonymous complaints
 - Signed or unsigned
- Director of Ethics authority to initiate inquiries
- Board authority to obtain information on actions taken by agencies as a result of its opinions and recommendations



CB 21-0401 Clean-up changes

- Add half-siblings to definition of “immediate family”
- Changes to timelines for better fit with board calendar
 - Eight weeks to render opinions rather than six
 - Seven days to notify subject of a complaint rather than five
 - 35 days for board to screen complaints rather than 31
- Modernize references with gender-neutral language



CB 21-0401 Ethics Code Amendments

Questions?

