

RESOLUTION NO. _____

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 23-035

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE-
LAND, FLORIDA CREATING THE LAKE-
LAND YOUTH COUNCIL; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, many municipalities establish youth councils in order to inject fresh ideas and the perspectives of youth in the community into local decision-making; and

WHEREAS, youth councils promote community service and foster a better understanding among young people of how municipal government works; and;

WHEREAS, youth councils are an excellent means of promoting regular and active civic engagement among young people, which is vitally important to provide knowledge, skills and abilities to the next generation of local leaders; and

WHEREAS, as such, the City Commission desires to create a Lakeland Youth Council;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE-
LAND, FLORIDA:**

SECTION 1. Adoption of Findings. The above findings are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. Creation of Lakeland Youth Council. The City Commission hereby creates a municipal committee to be known as the Lakeland Youth Council to advise and make recommendations as appropriate to the City Commission regarding issues of special interest to youth within the City.

SECTION 3. Composition. The Lakeland Youth Council shall consist of up to fifteen (15) students, who shall be appointed as follows: the Mayor and each City Commissioner may nominate up to two (2) students each to the Youth Council. In addition, the Mayor or any other member of the City Commission may nominate a third student to the Youth Council in order to establish a 15-member Council. The nominees shall be confirmed by majority vote of the City Commission following recommendation by the Municipal Boards and Committees Committee. Commissioner Madden shall serve as the initial City Commission liaison to the Youth Council and subsequent Commission liaisons shall be appointed in the same manner as Commission liaisons are appointed to other City boards and committees. The Commission liaison to the Youth Council shall report to the City Commission as to the Youth Council's activities on a regular basis as appropriate.

SECTION 4. Eligibility; Terms. Members of the Youth Council shall be City residents who are actively enrolled in a public or private high school in grades nine (9) through twelve (12). Members shall be appointed for terms of two (2) years each, except that members entering or attending twelfth (12th) grade shall be appointed for a term extending until their graduation.

SECTION 5. Vacancies. Nominations for vacant or open seats on the Youth Council shall be made by the Mayor or City Commissioner responsible for the initial nomination to the vacated or open seat. Members appointed to fill a vacant or open seat shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years, or until graduation in the case of a member of the Council attending twelfth (12th) grade.

SECTION 6. Election of Officers. The members of the Youth Council shall elect a Chair to preside over meetings and a Vice-Chair to preside in the absence of the Chair. Elections shall occur at the first meeting of the Youth Council following its establishment and on an annual basis thereafter.

SECTION 7. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

PASSED AND CERTIFIED AS TO PASSAGE this 3rd day of July, A.D. 2023.

H. WILLIAM MUTZ, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
KELLY S. KOOS, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS: _____
PALMER C. DAVIS
CITY ATTORNEY