



# MEMORANDUM

Office of the City Attorney

002300

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**TO:** Mayor and City Commissioners

**FROM:** City Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Salary and Florida Retirement System

**DATE:** January 28, 2002

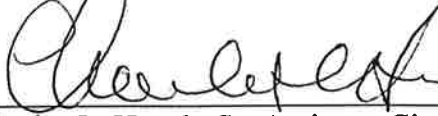
Recommendation: The City Commission authorize the City Attorney to draft and the Clerk of the Commission to advertise an Ordinance reducing the salaries of the Mayor and City Commissioners.

Last year the Florida Legislature amended the provisions of the Florida Retirement System (FRS), Chapter 121 of the Florida Statutes, to make it accessible to more local elected officials. Last fall the City Commission authorized staff to explore the possibility of having City Commissioners participate in the Florida Retirement System, if such could be done with no cost increase to the City. After reviewing the provisions of Chapter 121, F.S., discussing the issues with other attorneys and representatives of the division of retirement, city commissioners may elect to participate in FRS, at no cost to the city.


In order to be revenue neutral, the city commission, as a collective body, may lower City Commission salaries, across the board, by the percentage necessary to equal the amount of pension contributions that would be made on the then lower salary. Then, when the city commenced making contributions to the FRS on behalf of the Mayor and each City Commissioner, the cost incurred by the City would not increase.

In order to effectuate this, the City Commission should authorize the City Attorney's Office to amend Section 2-66 of the Code of Ordinances, dealing with Salaries, to reduce existing salaries by 13.14%. This Ordinance amendment would be presented at the next meeting, along with a Resolution designating the Mayor and City Commissioners as included in the elected officer class in the FRS. Upon final adoption of the Ordinance amendment, the Resolution would be forwarded to the Division of Retirement and the Mayor and City Commissioners would begin earning service in the elected officer class and the appropriate pension contribution, on the now lower salary, would be paid to FRS.

Prepared by:

  
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Approved and  
Submitted by:

  
Marion J. Radson, City Attorney

MJR:CLH:sw