

Carol Coles

From: Carol Coles
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 2:02 PM
To: *everyone; _Council Members; Andy Rieger; Denise Holder; Eddie Sims; Jane Cannon; KGOU; KOCO; KOKH; Ktok; KTOK; Norman News; Oklahoma Daily
Subject: Norman Youth Council Application

City of Norman
201 West Gray
Norman, Oklahoma 73069

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Contact: Carol Coles
City Of Norman
366-5404
carol.coles@normanok.gov

In 2010 the Norman City Council approved a resolution forming the Norman Youth Council. A Youth Council is an advisory body composed of local youth (sophomore, junior or senior in high school). Norman's Youth Council provides advice and counsel to City Council and their boards and commissions, as well as other community organizations. The Youth Council also provides youth in Norman an opportunity to learn about their local government.

Youth Councils promote civic engagement among youth by:

- Giving them a formal role in local decision making
- Offering real-world experiences with elected and advisory bodies
- Teaching them about the role of City Councils, boards and commissions
- Providing them with an opportunity to develop leadership skills and learn how local government operates
- Increasing communication between youth and adults
- Increasing youth volunteerism

This year the first class of the Youth Council has been very successful. They have received briefings from City of Norman Staff for a better understanding of City government and are currently discussing the issue of the use of wireless telecommunication devices while operating a motor vehicle.

Application requirements would include:

- Applicants must live in a Ward of the City of Norman. A Ward Map is available at www.normanok.gov.
- Applicants must be a high school sophomore, junior or senior in the upcoming academic year.
- Applicants must provide a completed application, including two letters of recommendation from adults who are familiar with their service to the community

and/or their leadership skills.

- Terms will be for the school year from September to May with a limit of two terms.

The application deadline is March 31, 2011. For an application or more information regarding Norman's Youth Council, contact Carol Coles at 366-5404 or carol.coles@normanok.gov. To download information regarding the City of Norman Youth Council and an application, go to www.normanok.gov and click on "How do I".