



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA SECTION	CONSENT AGENDA
MEETING DATE	APRIL 13, 2026

ITEM:	Second Reading of Ordinance 1726, Amending Chapter 5 Liquor Licensing and 5A Occupancy		
<i>Presenting Item: Aaron Chirpich, City Manager</i>			
DEPARTMENT:	Community Development	BY/DATE:	Mitchell Forney / March 20, 2026
CORE CITY STRATEGIES:			
_Community that Grows with Purpose and Equity		_Engaged, Effective and Forward-Thinking	
_High Quality Public Spaces		X Resilient and Prosperous Economy	
_Safe, Accessible and Built for Everyone		_Inclusive and Connected Community	

BACKGROUND

At the March City Council work session, staff presented the proposed code amendments outlined below and received feedback that helped shape the ordinance now before the Council. This is the same Ordinance 1726 that was presented for first reading at the Council’s March 23 meeting, at which time the Council reviewed the proposed changes and approved the ordinance on first reading. The item is now being brought back for second reading and final consideration. The amendments included in Ordinance 1726 are summarized below.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT STATUS

The following summarizes the code amendments included in Ordinance 1726:

§ 5.503 Malt Liquor

- Adds the On-Sale Malt Liquor license to the City Code. The City has historically issued this license, potentially as far back as 2006, but it has not been formally codified.
- Allows restaurants, hotels, and theaters (live performance or movie) to obtain an On-Sale Malt Liquor License, provided that at least 30% of gross receipts are derived from the sale of food or non-alcoholic beverages.

§ 5.505 Intoxicating Liquor

- Allows theaters (live performance or movie) to obtain an On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License, provided that at least 40% of gross receipts are derived from the sale of food or non-alcoholic beverages.
- Lowers the quantity of food required to be sold for all establishments from 55% to 40%

§ 5.506 On-Sale Wine Licenses

- Allows theaters (live performance or movie) to obtain an On-Sale Wine License, provided that at least 30% of gross receipts are derived from the sale of food or non-alcoholic beverages.

§ 5A.305 Posting to Prevent Occupancy

- Extends the maximum period in which tenants must vacate a property that has been posted as unlawful to occupy. The current maximum of 45 days is amended to 90 days.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend approval of Ordinance 1726.

RECOMMENDED MOTION(S):

MOTION: Move to close the public hearing and to waive the reading of Ordinance 1726, there being ample copies available to the public.

MOTION: Move to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 1726, being an ordinance amending chapters 5 article V and 5A article III of the Columbia Heights City Code to amend the code sections regulating the City’s liquor licensing and posting of buildings to prevent occupancy, and to direct staff to send the summary ordinance for publication in the legal newspaper.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Ordinance 1726
2. Summary Ordinance