

City of Hartford


Police Department



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TO: Mayor Hall and the Hartford City Commissioners

FROM: Chief Brian Matthews

CC: Nicol Pulluam, City Manager 

DATE: July 28, 2025

REF: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE “GENERAL PROVISIONS” DIVISION OF CHAPTER 130 OF THE HARTFORD CITY CODE TO ADD A NEW SECTION 130.5 TO PROHIBIT CAMPING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY**

ITEM BEFORE THE COMMISSION:

An ordinance to amend the “general provisions” division of chapter 130 of the Hartford city code to add a new section 130.5 to prohibit camping on public property

DISCUSSION:

The city attorney, Nick Curio, drafted an amendment to the city code's “Camping” ordinance.

The summary of the ordinance:

Prohibited Activities: In any city property, state property, county property, City Park, county trail, or any other public property, it shall be unlawful for any person(s) to:

Camp: defined as using camping equipment including but not limited to tents, lean-tos, sleeping bags, bedding, tarps, or similar materials for the purpose of establishing a temporary or permanent place to live, or sleeping outdoors on public property during park closure hours as established by separate ordinance.

Store personal property: defined as leaving personal belongings unattended on public property for more than 24 consecutive hours.

Start or maintain fires except in designated fire rings or grills provided by the jurisdiction.

Erect structures - set up any tent, shelter, lean-to, shack, or temporary housing structure.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Hartford City Commission approves the first reading of the Ordinance “General Provisions” of Chapter 130 of the Hartford City Code to provide Regulations and Penalties regarding camping or squatting on public property.

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