

# CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK CITY COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

Meeting Date January 11, 2024

**Originating Department** Administration

Contact Person Kim Adams Pratt, City Attorney

Title Ordinance 24-1288/Amending Chapter 9.06, Firearms and Dangerous

Weapons

# **Legislative History**

First Presentation
 January 11, 2024 Work Session

Second Presentation
 January 11, 2024 Regular Meeting

#### Attachments:

1. Ordinance 24-1288

#### **Executive Summary**

Ordinance 24-1288 would amend Chapter 9.06, Firearms and Dangerous Weapons, of the Lake Forest Park Municipal Code ("LFPMC") to make it unlawful to open carry a firearm in the Lake Forest Park City Hall building ("City Hall"). Certain exemptions are provided in the statue and proposed ordinance for members of the armed forces and federal, state, and local law enforcement officers.

#### **Background**

Under RCW 9.41.300, weapons are prohibited in certain places such as jails and courtrooms, and the LFPMC accordingly makes it unlawful to possess firearms in the City's municipal courtroom. LFPMC 9.06.020. In 2023, the state legislature also authorized cities in RCW 9.41.305 to designate specific municipal buildings that are used in connection with city meetings as locations where it is unlawful for any person to knowingly open carry a firearm or other weapon. Appropriate signage is required for identified buildings. The proposed ordinance would designate City Hall as a location where people cannot open carry firearms.

The ordinance also identifies the punishments for violation of Chapter 9.06 LFPMC as either misdemeanors or gross misdemeanors.

# **Fiscal & Policy Implications**

The City will purchase signage and place them at the entrance to City Hall and other strategic locations to alert the public.

# **Alternatives**

Options	Results
Approve the Ordinance	Open Carry Firearms will be prohibited throughout City Hall
Disapprove of the Ordinance	Firearms and other weapons will continue to be prohibited in the Courtroom.

# **Staff Recommendation**

Review the draft ordinance and provide feedback.