



MEDINA, WASHINGTON

AGENDA BILL

Monday, December 8, 2025

Subject: Lighting Ordinance – Interim Official Control (Extension)

Category: Consent Calendar

Staff Contact(s): Jennifer S. Robertson, City Attorney and Steve Wilcox, Development Services Director

Summary:

The City Council passed middle housing legislation on May 27, 2025 (Ordinance No. 1040) which takes effect on July 1, 2025. With the potential for significant increases in density and new construction, the Council expressed a desire to address the impacts of the lighting from such future developments in order to protect the sylvan nature of Medina, support “dark skies”, and make the new development more harmonious with the existing high quality natural and built environment in Medina. Lighting was also a prominent issue for the public when providing feedback on middle housing.

On June 23, 2025, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 1043 an “Interim Official Control” (“IOC”) to address lighting. An IOC is a zoning ordinance that can be in effect while the staff, Planning Commission, and City Council consider, process, and perform outreach on permanent lighting regulations. This ensures that development applications that are submitted prior to the permanent regulations will be required to meet the IOC standards. While the Planning Commission is working on permanent lighting regulations, the work is not yet completed. The IOC will expire on December 23, 2025, therefore, to keep the IOC in effect, an extension is needed.

Interim Official Control. An interim official control is adopted using the same procedures as a moratorium. The Council may extend the IOC but is required to hold a public hearing within 60 days. The ordinance sets the hearing for January 26, 2026. The ordinance also gives the Director of Development Services the authority to interpret the IOC. Assuming the public hearing is held, the ordinance will be in effect for 6 months and may be renewed if needed. While the ordinance is in effect, the Planning Commission and Council will continue to consider and process permanent regulations.

These proposed Ordinances meet and support Council’s priorities 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Council Priorities:

1. Financial Stability and Accountability
2. **Quality Infrastructure**
3. **Efficient and Effective Government**
4. **Public Safety and Health**
5. **Neighborhood Character and Community Building**

Attachment(s)

Exhibit 1: Ordinance No. 1050 extending the interim official control for outdoor lighting as set forth in Ordinance No. 1043

Exhibit 2: Ordinance No. 1043

Exhibit 3: Agenda Bill from June 23, 2025 regarding Ordinance No. 1043

Budget/Fiscal Impact: None

Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance No. 1050 to extend and renew the interim official control which was adopted on June 23, 2025 under Ordinance No. 1043.

City Manager Approval:



Proposed Council Motions:

MOTION: "I move adoption the Ordinance No. 1050, adopted pursuant to RCW 35A.63.220 and RCW 36.70A.390; extending and renewing the interim official control adopted under ordinance no. 1043, relating to zoning, which added a new Chapter 16.25 to the Medina Municipal Code (MMC) to require outdoor lighting to meet certain standards therein, revising MMC 16.66.110 for consistency with new chapter 16.25 MMC; adopting findings in support of this ordinance; setting a public hearing as required by RCW 35A.63.220 and RCW 36.70A.390 to take testimony on this extension and renewal of the interim official control; providing for severability and corrections; and establishing an effective date."