



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

☒ CITY COUNCIL ☐ NPUA

☒ Regular ☐ Special

Meeting Date: September 9, 2025

Title: Ordinance 677-AC Amending Chapter 18, Article 18-V, "Conduct on Public Property," of the Needles Municipal Code **2nd Read Adopt**

Background: Ordinance 677-AC was introduced for approval at the August 12, 2025, Regular NPUA / HACN/City Council Meeting. A motion and a second were made, and the Ordinance was approved by a 6-0 vote in favor.

The City, in coordination with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, has experienced a rise in trespassing and other conduct-related violations on public property. These include unauthorized entry, vandalism, damage to landscaping, misuse of facilities, and activities that compromise safety, accessibility, and the intended use of streets, parks, and other public areas.

To address these issues, City staff requested the City Attorney's Office to draft an ordinance clarifying enforcement authority and adding explicit provisions for prohibited trespass. The ordinance specifies posting requirements, enforcement standards, and penalties, and applies to all individuals—establishing consistent, enforceable rules citywide. While the City remains committed to connecting unsheltered persons with available resources, including housing, these regulations ensure that all individuals are held to the same standards.

Ordinance 677-AC strengthens the City's ability to keep public spaces clean, sanitary, and accessible, without impeding lawful and ordinary uses of public or private property. It aligns with the July 24, 2025, Executive Order "*Ending Crime and Disorder on America's Streets*", which calls for municipalities to enforce prohibitions on trespassing, loitering, vandalism, and other conduct that threatens public safety.

Fiscal Impact: Minimal cost for signage.

Recommendation: Waive full reading and Adopt Ordinance 677-AC of the City Council of the City of Needles, California, amending Chapter 18, Article 18-V, entitled "Conduct on Public Property" in the Needles Municipal Code.

Submitted By: Bernard Hatz II, Senior Code Enforcement Officer

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez Date: 9/4/2025

Other Department Approval (when required): _____ Date: _____