



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

☒ CITY COUNCIL ☐ NPUA

☒ Regular ☐ Special

Meeting Date: August 12, 2025

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

Background: 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.

Recommended Action: 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: 8/7/2025

Other Department Approval (when required): _____

Date: _____

Approved: ☐

Not Approved: ☐

Tabled: ☐

Other: ☐