

Council Agenda Bill

AB Number

AB26-005

Agenda Bill Information

Title *

Ordinance amending Chapter 10.24 Compression Brakes

Action *

Motion

Council Agenda Section

Ordinance

Council Meeting Date *

04/13/2026

Staff Member

Gary Horejsi

Department *

Police

Committee

Public Safety

Committee Date

04/06/2026

Exhibits

Packet Attachments - if any

Drag and drop up to **10** files here to upload or [Choose files](#)

Files (2 uploaded)

 x1 Ordinance Compression Brake 20260225.docx	29.27KB	Remove
 x2 Chapter 10.24 Compression Brake Ordinance Draft 20260225.docx	19.89KB	Remove

Click [here](#) to review attachments.

Summary

Introduction *

Brief summary.

This proposed ordinance amendment updates existing municipal code adopted in 1986 regulating the use of compression brakes to control noise in our largely residential city.

Proposed Motion

Move to approve Ordinance 1317 and amend Snoqualmie Municipal Code 10.24 Compression Brakes

Background/Overview *

What was done (legislative history, previous actions, ability to hyperlink)

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The City of Snoqualmie has received multiple complaints regarding the use of compression brakes within city limits. Snoqualmie Municipal Code (SMC) Chapter 10.24, originally adopted in 1986 (forty years ago), no longer reflects current standards, industry practices, terminology, or public safety needs. To better serve the community, the proposed updates to Chapter 10.24 would modernize Compression Brake regulations. These updates will clarify the definition of a compression brakes, specify when its use is prohibited, and revise associated penalties and signage requirements.

Current Code Language (SMC 10.24.010 – Compression brakes prohibited – Penalty “No person shall use motor vehicle brakes which are in any way activated or operated by the compression of the engine or any such motor vehicle or any unit or part thereof. Any violation of this section shall be deemed a traffic infraction and the penalty therefor shall be \$50.00.” (Ord. 576 § 1, 1986)): is proving difficult to apply to modern vehicles.

Updating aligns Chapter 10.24 with current vehicle technology and provides clearer, more effective tools to respond to noise complaints and support neighborhood livability. This will help address community concerns about the noise generated by compression brakes, particularly in predominantly residential areas.

Analysis *

Amends Chapter 10.24, Compression Brakes by clearly defining "Compression Brakes" to include all compression technology in use, prohibiting their use within the City, providing for emergency situations, and updating the penalty to \$250 per violation.

Budgetary Status *

This action has no budgetary implications.

Budget Summary

Fiscal Impact

Amount of Expenditure

\$

Amount Budgeted

\$

Appropriation Requested

\$

Fiscal Impact

Screenshot below is an image of the budget summary table.

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