



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Title: Request for Council Action – Ordinance Bill No. 8 for 2025 – Ordinance No. 1337 – City Property Exclusion Ordinance Amendment

Preferred Agenda: August 26, 2025

Submitted By: Blair Larsen, City Attorney

Reviewed By: Jason Ogden, City Manager

Type of Action: Resolution ☐ Motion ☒ Roll Call ☐ Other ☐

Relevant Code/Policy: SHMC 9.20.040(A)

Towards Council Goal: Desirable Community

Attachments: Ordinance Bill No. 8 for 2025 – Ordinance No. 1337 – City Property Exclusion Ordinance Amendment

Purpose of this RCA:

The purpose of this RCA is to request approval and first reading of a proposed ordinance amending the current ordinance on City Property Exclusions.

Background/Context:

In 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance 1257, which is now codified as Sweet Home Municipal Code (SHMC) Section 9.20.040 City Property Exclusion. This ordinance allows Police and Code Enforcement Officers to exclude from City Property people who violate City and State law on City property.

This ordinance applies to all owned and leased City property except for the public right-of-way, City Parks, and the City Library. City Parks were excluded from this ordinance because another City ordinance allows people to be excluded from parks. The library was excluded because, at the time, it was thought that the then newly-updated library policies, which included a process for excluding people who broke library rules, were sufficient.

The exclusion of the Library has made it difficult for Police Officers to assist the Library with excluding people who have violated City or State law, because the ordinance currently in place does not empower them to do so.

The SHMC section at issue currently reads:

- A. In addition to any other remedies or penalties provided by law any Police Officer or Code Enforcement Officer may exclude any person who violates a city or state criminal law including violations on city owned property, includes leased city property other than on a city sidewalk, street or in a city library or park from said real property as provided herein.

The proposed amendment would read (with new text underlined and ~~deleted text in strikethrough~~):

- A. In addition to any other remedies or penalties provided by law any Police Officer or Code Enforcement Officer may exclude any person who violates a city or state criminal law, including violations, on city owned or leased property, ~~includes leased city property~~ other than on a city sidewalk, street or in a city ~~library or~~ park from said real property as provided herein.

The proposed ordinance received a first and second reading at the City Council meeting on August 12, 2025.

The Challenge/Problem:

How does the address the need to exclude people from the Library when they violate City or State law?

Issues and Financial Impacts:

This ordinance involves no financial impact to the City.

Elements of a Stable Solution:

A stable solution includes an ordinance empowers Police Officers to assist Library Staff.

Options:

1. Do Nothing – If the Council chooses to do nothing, then Library staff will not have the full assistance of the Police when dealing with patrons who violate the law.
2. Move to approve the proposed ordinance as presented – Approve the ordinance with no changes.
3. Move to approve the proposed ordinance with changes – Approve the ordinance with modifications.
4. Direct Staff to research other ways to accomplish the same goals.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends option 2: Move to approve the proposed ordinance as presented.