



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Title: City Property Exclusion Ordinance Amendment

Preferred Agenda: August 12, 2025

Submitted By: Blair Larsen, City Attorney

Reviewed By: Jason Ogden, City Manager

Type of Action: Resolution ____ Motion X Roll Call ____ Other ____

Relevant Code/Policy: SHMC 9.20.040(A)

Towards Council Goal: Aspiration I: Desirable Community

Attachments: Ordinance Bill No. 8 for 2025 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 Challenge/Problem:

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

Stakeholders:

- Sweet Home Residents – Residents deserve a safe and secure library.
- Sweet Home City Council – The City Council is responsible for enacting ordinances that protect residents and visitors.

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. Motion to conduct a first reading of the proposed ordinance as presented – If the voting is unanimous, a second reading, by title only, may take place during the same meeting.
3. Motion to conduct a first reading of the proposed ordinance with changes – The Council may make changes to the proposed ordinance. If the voting is unanimous, a second reading, by title only, may take place during the same meeting.
4. Direct Staff to research other ways to accomplish the same goals.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends option 2: Motion to conduct a first reading of the proposed ordinance as presented.