



WASHOE COUNTY

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CM/ACM KS

Finance DN

DA ✓

Risk Mgt. N/A

HR N/A

Clerk DN

STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 28, 2015

DATE: July 6, 2015

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Dave Solaro, Arch., P.E., Director
Community Services Department, 328-3600, dsolaro@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Nancy Parent, Washoe County Clerk on behalf of the Community Services Department

SUBJECT: Approve a request to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 50 – Public Peace, Safety and Morals) pursuant to a request by Commissioner Berkbigler; and direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of a proposed ordinance, pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030 and 2.040. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

The Community Services Department, through the County Clerk, requests (pursuant to Washoe County Code 2.030) to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 50 – Public Peace, Safety and Morals) as requested by Commissioner Berkbigler at the June 23, 2015, County Commission meeting to address concerns of public safety related to the current Firearm Congested Area Boundary last updated in 2002. The process to amend Chapter 50 – Public Peace, Safety and Morals will include input from the Citizen Advisory Boards in all areas of the County. If the request is approved, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) is asked to direct the County Clerk to submit a request to the District Attorney to draft a proposed ordinance amending the code. When the proposed ordinance is complete, the County Clerk will commence proceedings by setting an Introduction and First Reading.

Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

December 2002 - The Firearm Congested Area Boundary was adjusted by the Board of County Commissioners.

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Washoe County Code (WCC) section 2.030, amendments to the Washoe County Code must be initiated by a request from the head of a department of the County to the County Clerk. Upon receiving the request, the County Clerk, under WCC 2.040, places the request on an agenda for consideration by the Board who would consider the request (and may hear testimony from the proposer or any other person regarding the

AGENDA ITEM # 11

proposed changes), and by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting, may approve the request with any changes the Board desires. If approved, the Board would then direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of a proposed ordinance, and, under WCC 2.050, when the District Attorney has completed the proposed ordinance the County Clerk would put the proposed ordinance on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board in accordance with the adoption procedures set out in NRS 244.100.

As indicated in the attached letter, the Community Services Department has requested an amendment to the Washoe County Code (Chapter 50- Public Peace, Safety and Morals) as requested by Commissioner Berkgigler at the June 23, 2015, Board meeting to address concerns of public safety related to the current Firearm Congested Area Boundary which was last updated in 2002.

Residential areas within Washoe County, and areas annexed by the cities of Reno and Sparks as seen in the attached Exhibit B have grown substantially since the last Firearm Congested Area Boundary adjustment and need to be adequately captured within the boundary. Additionally, outdoor recreational opportunities within Washoe County have increased and have created areas of conflict for users of trails and recreational shooting. These areas of conflict can be mitigated if the Firearm Congested Area Boundary is clear for all users of Washoe County open space. A process to gain public comment will be developed to gain input from all interested residents as the boundaries are developed for recommendation back to the Board of County Commissioners.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed code changes are not expected to increase costs. This ordinance is exempt from the Business Impact Statement pursuant to NRS 237.060 (2)(c).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that The Board of County Commissioners approve a request to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 50 – Public Peace, Safety and Morals) pursuant to a request by Commissioner Berkgigler; and direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of a proposed ordinance, pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030 and 2.040.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve a request to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 50 – Public Peace, Safety and Morals) pursuant to a request by Commissioner Berkgigler; and direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of a proposed ordinance, pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030 and 2.040."



Exhibit A
Washoe County
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

July 6, 2015

Nancy Parent
Washoe County Clerk
P.O. Box 11130
Reno, NV 89520

RE: Request to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 50- Public Peace, Safety and Morals) pursuant to a request by Commissioner Berkbigler.

Dear Ms. Parent,

In accordance with WCC 2.030, I request that you initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 50- Public Peace, Safety and Morals) pursuant to a request by Commissioner Berkbigler at the June 23, 2015 County Commission meeting to address, public safety related to the current Firearm Congested Area boundary last updated in 2002.

Attached is a proposed staff report requesting that the Board of County Commissioners approve the request and instruct you to direct the District Attorney to prepare a code amendment.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Solaro".

David M. Solaro
Director

Exhibit B

