



City Council Meeting May 27, 2025 Item No. 8 Staff Report

BOULDER CITY
CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR
JOE HARDY

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
DENISE E. ASHURST
COKIE BOOTH
SHERRI JORGENSEN
STEVE WALTON



MEETING LOCATION:
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
401 CALIFORNIA AVENUE
BOULDER CITY, NV 89005

MAILING ADDRESS:
401 CALIFORNIA AVENUE
BOULDER CITY, NV 89005

WEBPAGE:
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CITY MANAGER:
NED THOMAS, AICP

CITY ATTORNEY:
BRITTANY LEE WALKER, ESQ

CITY CLERK:
TAMI MCKAY, MMC, CPO

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR:
MICHAEL MAYS, AICP

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:
GARY POINDEXTER

UTILITIES DIRECTOR:
JOSEPH STUBITZ, PE

POLICE CHIEF:
TIM SHEA

ACTING FIRE CHIEF:
GREG CHESSER, CFO

FINANCE DIRECTOR:
CYNTHIA SNEED, CPA, CGFM

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR:
JULIE CALLOWAY, CPRP

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Brittany Walker, City Attorney
DATE: May 27, 2025

SUBJECT:

For possible action: Consideration of Bill No. 2079, an ordinance of the City of Boulder City, Nevada amending Title 7, Police Regulations, Chapter 5, Public Land Use of the Boulder City Municipal Code to prohibit camping, sleeping, and storing personal property in a public place

Business Impact Statement:

This action will not have a significant economic impact on business and will not directly restrict the formation, operation, or expansion of a business.

Action Requested:

That the City Council consider and approve the bill amending Title 7, Police Regulations, Chapter 5, Public Land Use of the Boulder City Municipal Code to prohibit camping, sleeping, and storing personal property in a public place.

Overview:

- A growing number of individuals are occupying public places in Boulder City and storing personal property and belongings in public places in a manner causing concern for City staff.
- The cities of Reno, Las Vegas, Henderson and Sparks along with Clark, Washoe and Nye counties have passed or expanded various punitive measures to restrict where people can sleep or camp.
- This ordinance would adopt measures similar to the other cities and counties restricting where people can camp and store personal property.

Background Information:

A growing number of individuals are occupying public places in Boulder City and storing personal property and belongings in public places in a manner causing concern for City staff. While park hours and Americans with Disabilities Act laws provide some protection for public resources, our current ordinance allows camping on undeveloped land for a period less than 48 hours which creates barriers to enforcement. This is a growing problem across the state. The cities of Reno, Las Vegas, Henderson and Sparks along with Clark, Washoe and Nye counties have passed or expanded various punitive measures to restrict where people can sleep or camp.

This ordinance would adopt measures similar to the other cities and counties restricting where people can camp and store personal property. There are proposed exceptions to allow camping in conjunction with a special event, or pursuant to a permit issued by the Parks and Recreation Director.

For individuals experiencing homelessness, City and Hospital staff continue with regular outreach efforts to provide aid and encourage those individuals to seek housing and other forms of assistance.

Financial:

There may be an increased fiscal impact to the City if individuals are arrested and jailed as a result of violations of this ordinance. Additionally, there will be increased costs for staff time to clean up abandoned camp sites and costs for storage of personal property removed from camp sites.

Boulder City Strategic Plan Goal:

Goal G. Continue to Maintain High Levels of Public Safety

Department Recommendation: That the City Council consider and approve Bill No. 2079 amending Title 7, Police Regulations, Chapter 5, Public Land Use of the Boulder City Municipal Code to prohibit camping, sleeping, and storing personal property in a public place.

Attachments:

Bill

Exhibit