



Agenda Item Report

Legislative Board: City Council
Date: October 21, 2025
Contact: Alicia Ramirez, City Clerk
Agenda Item ID / Number: 2018-533- / 1.6

ITEM TITLE: Deliberation and possible action to consider an Ordinance on first and final reading and to adopt said Ordinance amending Chapter 14, Article 14.09, pertaining to the regulations of the use of city property, specifically related to activities at the Municipal Complex during election periods (City Clerk Alicia Ramirez) [PUBLIC TESTIMONY]

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In order to provide the public clear guidance on the use of the Municipal Complex for the placement of signs and the ability to assemble to speak on matters of public concern, city staff developed content neutral regulations on the use of city property for the placement of non-governmental signs on city property and proposed the designation of areas on the new complex to be designated as a public forum for use by the public as necessary to speak out on matters of public concern while balancing and allowing city operations to continue in an effective and efficient manner.

In the 89th Legislative Regular Session, the Texas Legislature enacted House Bill 521, which took effect on September 1, 2025, and amended several sections of the Texas Election Code to add certain requirements for curbside voting procedures and Electioneering, specifically related to curbside voting and designating the distance limit around curbside to 20 feet.

Adopting the amended ordinance continues to provide clear guidance for the use of signs on city property, including at City Hall, and allows for reasonable signage during election periods. It also preserves City Hall property from damage and avoids confusion, such as the appearance of endorsing any product or message by the public. Most importantly, provide a safe environment for all residents.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

With the completion and occupation of the Municipal Complex in 2018, the Council established objective standards regarding the use of city property, including the city hall campus grounds, for signage and to designate areas for the exercise of First Amendment protected activities as necessary.

3. ANALYSIS

The original ordinance was implement to establish regulations to enhance the public's use and enjoyment of city land and facilities by ensuring access to and use of public land and facilities by all users, by prohibiting impediments to the orderly conduct of regular city business, by preventing traffic and pedestrian congestion and confusion, by protecting public property from damage, by enhancing property values and by securing the aesthetic appearance, visual appearance and natural beauty of public land and facilities for the benefit of the public.

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

Supplies and Staff's time to mark and place informational signage at various locations throughout the Municipal Complex parking lot.

5. STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS

OTHER

6. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

N/A

7. PROS AND CONS

Developing objective time, place, manner regulations regarding the use of city property and having them in place prior to an act or event which is regulated ensures equal treatment and avoids conflict in the establishment of the rules or laws.

8. ALTERNATIVES

One can leave city property unregulated, which may lead to the things the ordinance is designed to avoid or protect from ad-hoc decision making, which is subject to greater challenge and may lead to more cost and expense in responding to the issues as they occur.

One can increase or decrease the regulations within U.S. Constitutional and Texas law parameters.

9. REQUESTED ACTION / SUGGESTED MOTION / RECOMMENDATION

Staff seeks Council's directive to adopt or reject the amendment to the proposed Ordinance.

Attachments:

[Ordinance - Amending Code for Electioneering.pdf](#)
[ExhA Election_Day_Map_Update_Sept2025.pdf](#)