



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
YAKIMA, WASHINGTON  
AGENDA STATEMENT**

Item No. 9.F.  
For Meeting of: August 20, 2024

**ITEM TITLE:** Ordinance amending Title 6 of the Yakima Municipal Code relating to public safety and morality by adding a new Chapter 6.13, relating to SODA (Stay Out of Drugs Areas) Orders

**SUBMITTED BY:** Jeffrey Schaap, Senior Assistant City Attorney

**SUMMARY EXPLANATION:**

The City of Yakima, as well as many communities across America, is facing challenges as the result of illegal narcotic (drug) use and trafficking. Drug related criminal behavior has a deleterious effect on the quality of life within the City of Yakima and on the overall character of the community and specific neighborhoods within the community. Law enforcement and the City Legal Department, after reviewing data regarding the geographic concentration of drug related incidents within the City limits combined with knowledge gained from on the ground experience, has identified several areas with a high amount of drug related incidents.

This ordinance will allow the Municipal Court to issue SODA (Stay Out of Drug Area) Orders to defendants as a condition of pretrial release and/or deferral or suspension of sentence. These orders will prohibit “prohibited persons” from being in areas which the City has identified as being areas of high drug related incidents. A violation of the SODA Order would be a gross misdemeanor, thereby subjecting the offender to criminal sanctions.

**ITEM BUDGETED:** N/A

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 24-25:** A Safe and Healthy Yakima

**RECOMMENDATION:** Pass Ordinance.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[Ord-Amending YMC Title 6 & Adding 6.13\\_final.docx](#)

[Ord-Amending YMC Title 6 & Adding 6.13\\_redline.pdf](#)