



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

FROM: RIVERSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

**SUBJECT: ORDINANCE TO ADD CHAPTER 5.80 TO THE RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE
REGARDING PAWNSHOPS AND SECONDHAND DEALERS**

ISSUE:

Adopt an ordinance to add Chapter 5.80 to the Riverside Municipal Code regarding Pawnshops and Secondhand Dealers.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council introduce and subsequently adopt the attached ordinance amending the Riverside Municipal Code by adding Chapter 5.80 regulating pawn shops and secondhand dealer establishments.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Public Safety Committee met on June 21, 2017, with Chair Jim Perry and Member John Burnard present, to consider adopting an ordinance adding Chapter 5.80 to the Riverside Municipal Code to establish requirements related to the pawn shops and secondhand dealer establishments. After discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the City Council adopt an ordinance amending the Riverside Municipal Code regulating the pawn shops and secondhand dealer establishments.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, Chapter 19.355 of the Riverside Municipal Code (RMC) establishes land use standards for pawn shops and Chapter 19.730 establishes the procedures for minor conditional use permits. The RMC does not currently address the regulation of the operation of pawn shops or secondhand dealer establishments.

DISCUSSION:

Pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers constitute prime vehicles for the disposal and sale of stolen property within the city of Riverside. The purpose of Chapter 5.80 is to curtail the dissemination of stolen property and to facilitate the recovery of stolen property.

Chapter 5.80 will define the terms for the licensing and permitting requirements to regulate pawn shops and secondhand dealer establishments. Chapter 5.80 will also require pawn shops and secondhand dealer establishments to have the following:

1. Valid unexpired and unrevoked City business tax certificate
2. Valid State business license
3. Minor conditional use permit
4. Valid pawnshop and secondhand dealer establishment permit

Chapter 5.80 will allow the Chief of Police to issue, deny, and/or revoke a permit for such an establishment if the establishment permit holder has acted in a manner contrary to, or has violated, any provision of the RMC or the Business and Professions Code, is acting in a manner that constitutes a public nuisance, or the establishment permit holder or their agents, contractor, or employees have violated any laws in connection with the operation of the establishment or failed to cooperate with the Riverside Police Department.

Adopting Chapter 5.80 will allow a violation of this Chapter to be prosecuted as a misdemeanor or infraction at the discretion of the City Attorney. In addition, it will allow the City to recover its attorney's fees and costs in abating such nuisance and illegal activity.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact to the general fund.

Prepared by: Sergio G. Diaz, Chief of Police
Certified as to
availability of funds: Adam Raymond, Acting Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by: Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Concurs with:



Jim Perry, Chair
Public Safety Committee

Attachment: Ordinance