



AMENDMENT TO RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 5.80 – ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT

Community & Economic Development Department

City Council
July 28, 2026

RiversideCA.gov

1

BACKGROUND



November 5, 2019 - City Council adopted Ordinance No. 7488 to add Chapter 5.80 Entertainment Permit (EP) within Title 5 (Businesses) of the RMC

- Intended to regulate the operation of entertainment establishments
- Ensures consistent regulation across businesses
 - Sets Clear expectations for operators
 - Supports efficient, uniform enforcement
- Provides immediate enforcement tools
 - Established a three-tier escalating enforcement framework

2



RiversideCA.gov

2

BACKGROUND (CONTINUED)



February 4, 2020 - City Council adopted Ordinance No. 7505 to update Title 19 (Zoning) to reflect Entertainment Permit provisions

Prior to Chapter 5.80 – Entertainment uses were regulated through an MCUP or CUP

Intent of Chapter 5.80 – For all entertainment uses within the City to obtain an EP

Existing entertainment uses – must modify their MCUP or CUP to operate under an EP



3

RiversideCA.gov

3

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

CODE SECTION	•Chapter 5.80 – Entertainment Permit
CURRENT	• There are seven findings the Chief of Police must make to approve the issuance of an EP. • One finding for Issuance of an EP prevents some existing entertainment uses from obtaining an EP.
PROPOSED	• Provide an alternative path for existing entertainment uses to obtain an EP by allowing the Chief of Police to issue an EP if the permittee demonstrates they have abated the issues and agree to additional terms and conditions.



4

RiversideCA.gov

4

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council:

- Introduce and subsequently adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 5.80 of the Riverside Municipal Code regarding Entertainment Permits.



5

RiversideCA.gov

5

Reference Slides



6

RiversideCA.gov

6

PROPOSED CODE LANGUAGE

Section 5.80.070 Issuance of Entertainment Permit.

B. Where the Chief of Police does not approve an entertainment permit, the Chief of Police shall inform the permittee of the reason(s) for the denial in writing.

1. If the Chief of Police's decision to deny an entertainment permit is based solely on the Permittee's history of committing, permitting or failing to prevent significant violations of the city code, or any license or permit, in connection with an entertainment establishment for which he or she was a responsible person, the Chief of Police may nevertheless issue an entertainment permit to the Permittee if:

- a. The Permittee provides the Chief of Police sufficient evidence which, in the discretion of the Chief of Police, shows the history of violations of the city code have been abated and/or will no longer occur, and
- b. The Permittee agrees to additional terms and conditions during the initial term of the entertainment permit, which have a rational relationship to the history of violations of the city code described above, and
- c. The Permittee previously engaged in entertainment activity through a Minor Conditional Use Permit, Conditional Use Permit, or other nonconforming use prior to the adoption of this Chapter.



7

RiversideCA.gov