

City of Fairview
Policy Manual

FAIRVIEW POLICY MANUAL



City of Fairview
Policy Manual

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Chapter 1 - Role and Authority

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100.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The manual of the City is hereby established and shall be referred to as the Policy Manual or the manual. The manual is a statement of the current policies, procedures, rules, and guidelines of this city. All employees are to conform to the provisions of this manual.

All prior and existing manuals, orders, and regulations that are in conflict with this manual are rescinded, except to the extent that portions of existing manuals, orders, and other regulations that have not been included herein shall remain in effect where they do not conflict with the provisions of this manual.

100.2 POLICY

Except where otherwise expressly stated, the provisions of this manual shall be considered as guidelines. It is recognized that circumstances may arise that warrant departure from these guidelines. It is the intent of this manual to be viewed from an objective standard, taking into consideration the sound discretion entrusted to employees of this city under the circumstances reasonably available at the time.

100.2.1 DISCLAIMER

The provisions contained in the Policy Manual are not intended to create an employment contract nor any employment rights or entitlements. The policies contained within this manual are for the internal use of the City and shall not be construed to create a higher standard or duty of care for civil or criminal liability against the City, its officials, or its employees. Violations of any provision of any policy contained within this manual shall only form the basis for administrative action, training, or discipline. The City reserves the right to revise any policy content, in whole or in part.

100.3 AUTHORITY

The City Manager shall be considered the ultimate authority for the content and adoption of the provisions of this manual and shall ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and ordinances. The City Manager or the authorized designee is authorized to issue directives, which shall modify those provisions of the manual to which they pertain. Directives from the City Manager or the authorized designee shall remain in effect until such time as they may be permanently incorporated into the manual.

100.4 DEFINITIONS

The following words and terms shall have these assigned meanings throughout the Policy Manual, unless it is apparent from the content that they have a different meaning:

Elected official - Any individual who serves in the City government based upon selection by a public vote, as well as any individual who is appointed or otherwise selected to fill such a position that has been vacated prior to the conclusion of the elected individual's term.

Employee - Any person employed by the City, including:

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- Full- and part-time employees.
- Appointed personnel. This does not include persons appointed to fill an elected official vacancy.

Manual - The City Policy Manual.

May - Indicates a permissive, discretionary, or conditional action.

Shall or will - Indicates a mandatory action.

Should - Indicates a generally required or expected action, absent a rational basis for failing to conform.

Supervisor - A person in a position of authority that may include responsibility for directing the work of other employees, or having the authority to adjust grievances. The supervisory exercise of authority may not be merely routine or clerical in nature but requires the use of independent judgment.

The term "supervisor" may also include any person (e.g., lead or senior worker) given responsibility for the direction of the work of others without regard to a formal job title, rank, or compensation.

100.5 ISSUING THE POLICY MANUAL

An electronic version of the Policy Manual will be made available to all employees on the city network for viewing and printing. No changes shall be made to the manual without authorization from the City Manager or the authorized designee.

Each employee shall acknowledge having access to and having the opportunity to review the Policy Manual and any directives issued by the City Manager or the authorized designee. Employees shall seek clarification as needed from an appropriate supervisor for any provisions that they do not fully understand.

100.6 PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE POLICY MANUAL

The City Manager will ensure that the Policy Manual is periodically reviewed and updated as necessary.

100.7 REVISIONS

All revisions to the Policy Manual will be provided to each employee on or before the date the policy becomes effective. Each employee will be required to acknowledge having reviewed the revisions and shall seek clarification from an appropriate supervisor as needed.

Employees are responsible for keeping abreast of all Policy Manual revisions.

All city employees suggesting revision of the contents of the Policy Manual shall forward their written suggestions to their supervisors, who will consider the recommendations and forward them to the City Manager as appropriate.

Standards of Conduct for All Employees

101.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes standards of conduct that are consistent with the values and mission of the City and are expected of all employees. The standards contained in this policy are not intended to be an exhaustive list of requirements and prohibitions, but they do identify many of the important matters concerning conduct. In addition to the provisions of this policy, employees are subject to all other provisions contained in this manual, as well as any additional guidance on conduct that may be disseminated by this city or an employee's supervisor.

101.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Conflict of interest - Any actual, perceived, or potential conflict in which it reasonably appears that an employee's action, inaction, or decisions are or may be influenced by a personal or business relationship. It includes conflicts defined and prohibited by state law.

101.2 POLICY

Employment with the City is on an at-will basis. The continued employment or appointment of every employee of the City shall be based on conduct that reasonably conforms to the guidelines set forth herein. Failure to meet the guidelines set forth in this policy, whether during work hours or non-work hours, may be cause for disciplinary action.

101.3 GENERAL STANDARDS

Employees shall conduct themselves in accordance with the federal and state constitutions and all applicable laws, ordinances, and rules enacted or established pursuant to legal authority.

Employees shall familiarize themselves with policies and procedures and are responsible for compliance with each. Employees should seek clarification and guidance from supervisors in the event of any perceived ambiguity or uncertainty.

101.4 CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINE

Discipline may be initiated for any good cause. The following are illustrative of causes for disciplinary action. This list is not intended to cover every possible type of misconduct and does not preclude the recommendation of disciplinary action for violation of other rules, standards, or ethics, and specific action or inaction that is detrimental to the city's ability to effectively serve the public.

101.4.1 LAWS, RULES, AND ORDERS

- (a) Violation of, or ordering or instructing a subordinate to violate, any policy, procedure, rule, order, directive, or requirement, or failure to follow instructions contained in city manuals.
- (b) Disobedience of any lawful direction or order.

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- (c) Violation of federal, state, local, or administrative laws, rules, or regulations.

101.4.2 ETHICS

- (a) Using or disclosing one's status as an employee of the City in any way that could reasonably be perceived as an attempt to gain influence or authority for non-city business or activity.
- (b) The wrongful or unlawful exercise of authority on the part of any employee for malicious purpose, personal gain, willful deceit, or any other improper purpose.
- (c) The receipt or acceptance of a reward, fee, or gift from any person for service incident to the performance of the employee's work with the City.
- (d) Acceptance of fees, gifts, or money contrary to the rules of this city and/or laws of the state.
- (e) Offer or acceptance of a bribe or gratuity.
- (f) Any other failure to abide by the standards of ethical conduct.

101.4.3 DISCRIMINATION, OPPRESSION, OR FAVORITISM

Unless required by law or policy, discriminating against, oppressing, or providing favoritism to any person because of actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, economic status, cultural group, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law, or intentionally denying or impeding another in the exercise or enjoyment of any right, privilege, power, or immunity, knowing the conduct is unlawful.

101.4.4 RELATIONSHIPS

- (a) Unwelcome solicitation of a personal or sexual relationship during work hours or through the use of one's official capacity.
- (b) Engaging in sexual activity during work hours, including but not limited to sexual intercourse, excessive displays of public affection, or other sexual contact.
- (c) Establishing or maintaining an inappropriate personal or financial relationship as a direct result of any official business.
- (d) Associating with or joining a criminal gang, organized crime, and/or criminal syndicate when the employee knows or reasonably should know of the criminal nature of the organization.

101.4.5 ATTENDANCE

- (a) Leaving the job to which the employee is assigned during work hours without reasonable excuse and proper permission and approval.
- (b) Unexcused or unauthorized absence or tardiness.
- (c) Excessive absenteeism or abuse of leave privileges.

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- (d) Failure to report to work or to the place of assignment at the time specified and fully prepared to work without reasonable excuse.

101.4.6 UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS, DISCLOSURE, OR USE

- (a) Unauthorized and inappropriate intentional release of confidential or protected information, materials, data, forms, or reports obtained as a result of the employee's position with this city.
- (b) The use of any information, photograph, video, or other recording obtained or accessed as a result of employment or appointment to this city for personal or financial gain or without the express authorization of the City Manager or the authorized designee.
- (c) Loaning, selling, allowing unauthorized use, giving away, or appropriating any city badge, uniform, identification card, or property for personal use, personal gain, or any other improper or unauthorized use or purpose.
- (d) Using city resources in association with any portion of an independent civil action. These resources include but are not limited to personnel, vehicles, equipment, and non-subpoenaed records.

101.4.7 EFFICIENCY

- (a) Neglect of duty.
- (b) Unsatisfactory work performance, including but not limited to failure, incompetence, inefficiency, or delay in performing and/or carrying out proper orders, work assignments, or the instructions of supervisors without a reasonable and bona fide excuse.
- (c) Concealing, attempting to conceal, removing, or destroying defective or incompetent work.
- (d) Unauthorized sleeping during work hours or assignments.
- (e) Failure to notify the City within 24 hours of any change in residence address or contact numbers.
- (f) Failure to notify a supervisor of changes in relevant personal information (e.g., information associated with benefits determination) in a timely fashion.

101.4.8 PERFORMANCE

- (a) Failure to disclose or misrepresenting material facts or making any false or misleading statement on any application, examination form, or other official document, report, or form, or during the course of any work-related investigation.
- (b) The falsification of any work-related records, making misleading entries or statements with the intent to deceive, or the willful and unauthorized removal, alteration, destruction, and/or mutilation of any city record, public record, book, paper, or document.
- (c) Failure to participate in investigations, or giving false or misleading statements, or misrepresenting or omitting material information to a supervisor or other person in a

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position of authority, in connection with any investigation or in the reporting of any city-related business.

- (d) Being untruthful or knowingly making false, misleading, or malicious statements that are reasonably calculated to harm the reputation, authority, or official standing of this city or its employees.
- (e) Disparaging remarks or conduct concerning duly constituted authority to the extent that such conduct disrupts the efficiency of this city or subverts the good order, efficiency, and discipline of this city or that would tend to discredit any of its employees.
- (f) Unlawful gambling or unlawful betting at any time or any place. Legal gambling or betting under any of the following conditions:
 - 1. While on city premises.
 - 2. At any work site, during work hours, or while using any city equipment or system.
- (g) Improper political activity, including:
 - 1. Unauthorized attendance during work hours at official legislative or political sessions.
 - 2. Solicitations, speeches, or distribution of campaign literature for or against any political candidate or position during work hours or on city property except as expressly authorized by city policy, an employment agreement or contract, or the City Manager or the authorized designee.
- (h) Engaging in political activities during work hours except as expressly authorized by city policy, or the City Manager or the authorized designee.
- (i) Any act that brings discredit to this city.

101.4.9 CONDUCT

- (a) Failure to promptly and fully report activities on the employee's part or the part of any other employee where such activities resulted in contact with any law enforcement agency or that may result in criminal prosecution or discipline under this policy.
- (b) Unauthorized or unlawful fighting, or threatening or attempting to inflict unlawful bodily harm on another.
- (c) Engaging in horseplay that reasonably could result in injury or property damage.
- (d) Discourteous, disrespectful, or discriminatory treatment of any member of the public or any employee of the City.
- (e) Use of obscene, indecent, profane, or derogatory language during work hours or in uniform.
- (f) Criminal, dishonest, or disgraceful conduct that adversely affects the employee's relationship with the City.
- (g) Unauthorized possession of, loss of, or damage to city property or the property of others or endangering it through carelessness or maliciousness.

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- (h) Attempted or actual theft of city property; misappropriation or misuse of public funds, property, personnel, or the services or property of others; unauthorized removal or possession of city property or the property of another person.
- (i) Activity that is incompatible with an employee's conditions of employment or appointment as established by law or that violates a provision of any employment agreement or contract, including fraud in securing the appointment or hire.
- (j) Initiating any civil action for recovery of any damages or injuries incurred in the course and scope of employment or appointment without first notifying the City Manager or the authorized designee of such action.
- (k) Any other conduct that any employee knows or reasonably should know is unbecoming an employee of this city, is contrary to good order, efficiency, or morale, or tends to reflect unfavorably upon the City or its employees.

101.4.10 SAFETY

- (a) Failure to observe or violating city safety standards or safe working practices.
- (b) Failure to maintain current licenses or certifications required for the assignment or position (e.g., driver's license, first aid).
- (c) Failure to maintain good physical condition sufficient to adequately and safely perform the work assigned, if applicable.
- (d) Unsafe firearm or other weapon handling, including loading or unloading firearms in an unsafe manner.
- (e) Carrying, while on the premises of the work site, any firearm or other weapon that is not authorized by law or the member's appointing authority.
- (f) Unsafe or improper driving habits or actions in the course of employment or appointment.
- (g) Any personal action contributing to a preventable traffic accident.
- (h) Concealing or knowingly failing to report any on-the-job or work-related accident or injury as soon as practicable but within 24 hours.

101.4.11 INTOXICANTS

- (a) Reporting for work or being at work while intoxicated or when the employee's ability to work is impaired due to the use of alcohol, medication, or drugs, whether legal, prescribed, or illegal.
- (b) Possession or use of alcohol during work hours.
- (c) Unauthorized possession, use of, or attempting to bring a controlled substance, illegal drug, or non-prescribed medication to work.

Chapter 2 - Organization and Administration

Electronic Mail

200.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper use and application of the electronic mail (email) system provided by the City.

200.2 POLICY

Employees shall use email in a professional manner in accordance with this policy and current public records laws.

200.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Employees forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to emails accessed, transmitted, received, or reviewed on any city technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

Employees are advised and cautioned that the use of a personally owned device for business-related purposes may subject the employee and the employee's device records to civil or criminal discovery or disclosure under applicable public records laws.

200.4 RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF EMAIL

Messages transmitted over the email system are restricted to official business activities, or shall only contain information that is essential for the accomplishment of business-related tasks or for communications that are directly related to the business, administration, or practices of the City.

Sending derogatory, defamatory, obscene, disrespectful, sexually suggestive, harassing, or any other inappropriate messages on the email system is prohibited and may result in discipline.

Email messages addressed to the entire City are only to be used for official business-related items that are of particular interest to all users. In the event that an employee has questions about sending a particular email communication, the employee should seek prior approval from a supervisor.

It is a violation of this policy to transmit a message under another employee's name or email address or to use the password of another to log into the system unless directed to do so by a supervisor. Employees are required to log off the network or secure the workstation when the computer is unattended. This added security measure will minimize the potential misuse of an employee's email, name, or password. Any employee who believes the employee's password has become known to another person shall change the password immediately.

200.5 EMAIL RECORD MANAGEMENT

Email may, depending upon the individual content, be a public record and must be managed in accordance with the established records retention schedule and in compliance with state law.

The City Recorder should ensure that email messages are retained and recoverable as outlined in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

Information Technology Use

201.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the proper use of city information technology resources, including computers, electronic devices, hardware, software, and systems.

201.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Computer system - All computers (on-site and portable), electronic devices, hardware, software, and resources owned, leased, rented, or licensed by the City that are provided for official use by its employees. This includes all access to, and use of, Internet Service Providers (ISP) or other service providers provided by or through the City or city funding.

Hardware - Includes but is not limited to computers, computer terminals, network equipment, electronic devices, telephones (including cellular and satellite), pagers, modems, or any other tangible computer device generally understood to comprise hardware.

Software - Includes but is not limited to all computer programs, systems, and applications, including shareware. This does not include files created by the individual user.

Temporary file, permanent file, or file - Any electronic document, information, or data residing or located, in whole or in part, on the system, including but not limited to spreadsheets, calendar entries, appointments, tasks, notes, letters, reports, messages, photographs, or videos.

201.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City that employees shall use information technology resources, including computers, software, and systems, that are issued or maintained by the City in a professional manner and in accordance with this policy.

201.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Employees forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to emails, texts, or anything published, shared, transmitted, or maintained through file-sharing software or any internet site that is accessed, transmitted, received, or reviewed on any city computer system.

The City reserves the right to access, audit, and disclose, for whatever reason, any message, including attachments, and any information accessed, transmitted, received, or reviewed over any technology that is issued or maintained by the City, including the city email system, computer network, and/or any information placed into storage on any city system or device. This includes records of all key strokes or web-browsing history made at any city computer or over any city network. The fact that access to a database, service, or website requires a username or password will not create an expectation of privacy if it is accessed through city computers, electronic devices, or networks.

Information Technology Use

201.4 RESTRICTED USE

Employees shall not access computers, devices, software, or systems for which they have not received prior authorization or the required training. Employees shall immediately report unauthorized access or use of computers, devices, software, or systems by another employee to their supervisors.

Employees shall not use another person's access passwords, logon information, and other individual security data, protocols, and procedures unless directed to do so by a supervisor.

201.4.1 SOFTWARE

Employees shall not copy or duplicate any copyrighted or licensed software except for a single copy for backup purposes, in accordance with the software company's copyright and license agreement.

To reduce the risk of a computer virus or malicious software, employees shall not install any unlicensed or unauthorized software on any city computer. Employees shall not install personal copies of any software on any city computer.

No employee shall knowingly make, acquire, or use unauthorized copies of computer software that is not licensed to the City while on city premises, computer systems, or electronic devices. Such unauthorized use of software exposes the City and involved employees to severe civil and criminal penalties.

Introduction of software by employees should only occur as a part of the automated maintenance or update process of city-approved or installed programs by the original manufacturer, producer, or developer of the software. Any other introduction of software requires prior authorization from a supervisor and a full scan for malicious attachments.

201.4.2 HARDWARE

Access to technology resources provided by or through the City shall be strictly limited to city-related activities. Data stored on or available through city computer systems shall only be accessed by authorized employees who have a legitimate city-related purpose to access such data. Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by a supervisor.

201.4.3 INTERNET USE

Internet access provided by or through the City shall be strictly limited to city-related activities. Internet sites containing information that is not appropriate or applicable to city use and that shall not be intentionally accessed include but are not limited to adult forums, pornography, gambling, chat rooms, and similar or related internet sites. Certain exceptions may be permitted with the express approval of a supervisor as a function of an employee's assignment.

Downloaded information from the internet shall be limited to messages, mail, and data files.

201.4.4 USE DURING NON-WORK HOURS

Employees shall only use technology resources provided by the City during work hours unless specifically authorized by a supervisor. This includes the use of telephones, cell phones, texting,

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email, or any other off-the-clock work-related activities. This also applies to personally owned devices that are used to access city resources.

Refer to the Personal Communication Devices Policy for guidelines regarding use of personally owned technology during non-work hours.

201.5 PROTECTION OF SYSTEMS AND FILES

All employees have a duty to protect the computer system and related systems and devices from physical and environmental damage and are responsible for the correct use, operation, care, and maintenance of the computer system.

Employees shall ensure city computers and access terminals are not viewable by unauthorized users. Computers and terminals should be secured, users logged off, and password protections enabled whenever the user is not present. Access passwords, logon information, and other individual security data, protocols, and procedures are confidential information and are not to be shared. Password length, format, structure, and content shall meet the prescribed standards required by the computer system or as directed by a supervisor and shall be changed at intervals as directed.

It is prohibited for an employee to allow an unauthorized user to access the computer system at any time or for any reason. Employees shall promptly report any unauthorized access to the computer system or suspected intrusion from outside sources (including the internet) to a supervisor.

201.6 INSPECTION AND REVIEW

A supervisor or the authorized designee has the express authority to inspect or review the computer system, all temporary or permanent files, related electronic systems or devices, and any contents thereof, whether such inspection or review is in the ordinary course of supervisory duties or based on cause.

Reasons for inspection or review may include but are not limited to computer system malfunctions, problems, or general computer system failure, a lawsuit against the City involving one of its employees or an employee's duties, an alleged or suspected violation of any city policy, a request for disclosure of data, or a need to perform or provide a service.

Qualified staff may extract, download, or otherwise obtain any and all temporary or permanent files residing or located in or on the city computer system when requested by a supervisor or during the course of regular duties that require such information.

Local Government Use of Social Media

202.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that any use of social media on behalf of the City is consistent with the City mission.

This policy does not address all aspects of social media use. Specifically, it does not address:

- Personal use of social media by city employees (see the Speech, Expression, and Social Networking Policy).
- Use of social media in personnel processes (see the Recruitment and Selection Policy).
- Use of social media as part of an investigation, other than disseminating information to the public on behalf of this city.

202.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Social media - Any of a wide array of internet-based tools and platforms that allow for the sharing of information, such as the city website or social networking services.

202.2 POLICY

The City will use social media as a method of effectively informing the public about city services, issues, investigations, recruitment, and other relevant events.

The use or access of social media should be done in a manner that protects the constitutional rights of all people.

202.3 AUTHORIZED USERS

Only employees authorized by the City Manager or the authorized designee may utilize social media on behalf of the City. Authorized employees shall use only city-approved equipment during the normal course of duties to post and monitor city-related social media, unless they are specifically authorized to do otherwise by their supervisors.

The City Manager may develop specific guidelines identifying the type of content that may be posted. Any content that does not strictly conform to the guidelines should be approved by a supervisor prior to posting.

Requests to post information over city social media by employees who are not authorized to post should be made through the appropriate supervisory channels.

202.4 AUTHORIZED CONTENT

Only content that is appropriate for public release, that supports the City mission, and that conforms to all city policies regarding the release of information may be posted. Examples of appropriate content include:

- (a) Announcements.

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- (b) Tips and information related to crime prevention.
- (c) Requests for information.
- (d) Community engagement information.
- (e) Real-time safety information that is related to in-progress crimes, geographical warnings, or disaster information.
- (f) Traffic information.
- (g) Media releases.
- (h) Recruitment of personnel.

202.4.1 INCIDENT-SPECIFIC USE

In instances of active incidents where speed, accuracy, and frequent updates are paramount (e.g., crime alerts, public safety information, traffic issues), the City Manager or the authorized designee will be responsible for the compilation of information to be released.

202.5 PROHIBITED CONTENT

Content that is prohibited from posting includes but is not limited to:

- (a) Content that is abusive, discriminatory, inflammatory, or sexually explicit.
- (b) Any information that violates individual rights, including confidentiality and/or privacy rights and those provided under state, federal, or local laws.
- (c) Any information that could compromise an ongoing investigation.
- (d) Any information that could tend to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation, or professionalism of the City or its employees.
- (e) Any information that could compromise the safety and security of city operations, employees of the City, or the public.
- (f) Any content posted for personal use.
- (g) Any content that has not been properly authorized by this policy or a supervisor.

Any employee who becomes aware of content on this city's social media sites that the employee believes is unauthorized or inappropriate should promptly report such content to a supervisor. The supervisor will ensure its removal from public view and investigate the cause of the entry.

202.5.1 PUBLIC POSTING PROHIBITED

City social media sites shall be designed and maintained to prevent posting of content by the public.

The City may provide a method for members of the public to contact city employees directly.

202.6 MONITORING CONTENT

The City Manager will appoint a supervisor to review, at least annually, the use of city social media and report back on, at a minimum, the resources being used, the effectiveness of the content, any unauthorized or inappropriate content, and the resolution of any issues.

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202.7 RETENTION OF RECORDS

The City Manager should work with the City Recorder to establish a method of ensuring that public records generated in the process of social media use are retained in accordance with established records retention schedules.

202.8 TRAINING

Authorized employees should receive training that, at a minimum, addresses legal issues concerning the appropriate use of social media sites, as well as privacy, civil rights, and dissemination and retention of information posted on city sites.

Subpoenas and Court Appearances

203.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for city employees who must appear in court. It will allow the City to cover any related work absences and keep the City Manager informed about relevant legal matters.

203.2 POLICY

Employees will respond appropriately to all subpoenas and any other court-ordered appearances.

203.3 SUBPOENAS

Only employees authorized to receive a subpoena on behalf of the City or any of its employees may do so.

203.3.1 SPECIAL NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Any employees who are subpoenaed to testify, agree to testify, or provide information on behalf or at the request of any party other than the City or the prosecutor shall notify their immediate supervisors without delay regarding:

- (a) Any civil case where the City or one of its employees, as a result of the employee's official capacity, is a party.
- (b) Any civil case where any other city, county, state, or federal unit of government or a member of any such unit of government, as a result of the member's official capacity, is a party.
- (c) Any criminal proceeding where the employee is called to testify or provide information on behalf of the defense.
- (d) Any civil action stemming from the employee's work activity or because of the employee's association with the City.
- (e) Any personnel or disciplinary matter when called to testify or to provide information by a government entity other than the City.

The supervisor will then notify the City Manager and the appropriate prosecuting attorney if applicable. The City Manager should determine if additional legal support is necessary.

No employee shall be retaliated against for testifying in any matter.

203.3.2 WORK-RELATED SUBPOENAS

The City will compensate employees who appear in their official capacities on matters arising out of their official duties.

The City should seek reimbursement for the employee's compensation for appearances on civil subpoenas through the attorney of record who subpoenaed the employee.

Subpoenas and Court Appearances

203.3.3 OTHER SUBPOENAS

Employees receiving valid subpoenas for actions unrelated to their employment or appointment with the City will not be compensated for their appearance. Arrangements for time off shall be coordinated through their immediate supervisors.

203.4 FAILURE TO APPEAR

Any employee who fails to comply with the terms of any properly served subpoena or court-ordered appearance may be subject to discipline. This includes properly served orders to appear that were issued by a state administrative agency.

203.5 COURTROOM PROTOCOL

When appearing in court, employees shall:

- (a) Be punctual and prepared to proceed immediately with the case for which they are scheduled to appear.
- (b) Dress and prepared to proceed immediately with the case for which they are scheduled to appear.
- (c) Observe all rules of the court in which they are appearing and remain alert to change in the assigned courtroom where their matter is to be heard.

203.5.1 TESTIMONY

Before the date of testifying, the subpoenaed employee should review relevant reports or documents in order to be prepared for court.

203.5.2 RECORDS

When an employee is directed by a subpoena to appear in court with records, that employee should notify the City Recorder promptly after receiving the subpoena that the specified records are needed for court.

Limited English Proficiency Services

204.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to employees when communicating with individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) (42 USC § 2000d).

204.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Authorized interpreter - A person who has been screened and authorized by the City to act as an interpreter and/or translator for others.

Interpret or interpretation - The act of listening to a communication in one language (source language) and orally converting it to another language (target language), while retaining the same meaning.

Limited English proficiency (LEP) individual - Any individual whose primary language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. These individuals may be competent in certain types of communication (e.g., speaking, understanding) but still exhibit LEP for other purposes (e.g., reading, writing). Similarly, LEP designations are context-specific; an individual may possess sufficient English language skills to function in one setting, but these skills may be insufficient in other situations.

Qualified bilingual employee - An employee of the City, designated by the City Manager or the authorized designee, who has the ability to communicate fluently, directly, and accurately in both English and another language. Bilingual employees may be fluent enough to communicate in a non-English language but may not be sufficiently fluent to interpret or translate from one language into another.

Translate or translation - The replacement of written text from one language (source language) into an equivalent written text (target language).

204.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to reasonably provide LEP individuals with meaningful access to services, programs, and activities, while not imposing undue burdens on the City or its employees.

The City will not discriminate against or deny any individual access to services, rights, or programs based upon national origin or any other protected interest or right.

204.3 LEP COORDINATOR

The City Manager or the authorized designee should delegate certain responsibilities to an LEP coordinator.

The responsibilities of the coordinator should include but not be limited to:

- (a) Coordinating and implementing all aspects of the city's LEP services to LEP individuals.

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- (b) Developing procedures that will enable employees to access LEP services, including telephonic interpreters, and ensuring the procedures are available to all employees.
- (c) Maintaining and making available to employees, as appropriate, a list of all qualified bilingual employees and authorized interpreters. The list should include information regarding:
 - 1. Languages spoken.
 - 2. Contact information.
 - 3. Availability.
- (d) Ensuring signage stating that interpreters are available free of charge to LEP individuals is posted in appropriate areas and in the most commonly spoken languages.
- (e) Reviewing existing and newly developed documents to determine which are vital documents and should be translated, and into which languages the documents should be translated.
 - 1. Content on the city website should be included in this review and should be translated on the website, if appropriate.
- (f) Annually assessing demographic data and other resources, including contracted language services utilization data and data from government and community-based organizations, to determine if there are additional documents or languages that are appropriate for translation.
- (g) Identifying standards and assessments to be used to qualify individuals as qualified bilingual employees or authorized interpreters.
- (h) Periodically reviewing efforts of the City in providing meaningful access to LEP individuals, and, as appropriate, developing reports, developing new procedures, or recommending modifications to this policy.
- (i) Receiving and responding to complaints regarding city LEP services.
- (j) Ensuring appropriate processes are in place to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints and inquiries regarding discrimination in access to city services, programs, and activities.
- (k) Requiring third parties providing city services, rights, or programs through contract, outsourcing, licensing, or other arrangement to establish reasonable policies and procedures to prohibit discrimination or denial of access or services based upon national origin or any other protected interest or right.

204.4 FOUR-FACTOR ANALYSIS

Because there are many different languages that employees could encounter, the City may utilize the four-factor analysis outlined in the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients, available at the DOJ website, to determine which measures will provide meaningful access to its services and programs. It is recognized that contacts and circumstances will vary considerably. This analysis, therefore, must remain flexible and will require an ongoing balance of the following four factors, which are:

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- (a) The number or proportion of LEP individuals eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by city employees, or who may benefit from programs or services within the jurisdiction of this city.
- (b) The frequency with which LEP individuals are likely to come in contact with city employees, programs, or services.
- (c) The nature and importance of the contact, program, information, or service provided.
- (d) The cost of providing LEP assistance and the resources available.

204.5 TYPES OF LEP ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Employees should never refuse service to an LEP individual who is requesting assistance, nor should they require an LEP individual to furnish an interpreter as a condition for receiving assistance. The City will make every reasonable effort to provide meaningful and timely assistance to LEP individuals through a variety of services.

The City may utilize all reasonably available tools, such as language identification cards, when attempting to determine an LEP individual's primary language.

LEP individuals may choose to accept city-provided LEP services at no cost, or they may choose to provide their own.

City-provided LEP services may include but are not limited to the assistance methods described in this policy.

204.6 WRITTEN FORMS AND GUIDELINES

Vital documents or those that are frequently used should be translated into languages most likely to be encountered. If English versions of any vital documents are published on the city website, the translated versions of the same document must also be posted on the website. The LEP coordinator will arrange to make all translated documents available to employees and other appropriate individuals, as necessary.

204.7 AUDIO RECORDINGS

The City may develop audio recordings of important or frequently requested information in a language most likely to be understood by those LEP individuals who are representative of the community being served.

204.8 QUALIFIED BILINGUAL EMPLOYEES

Bilingual employees may be qualified to provide LEP services when they have demonstrated through established city procedures a sufficient level of skill and competence to fluently communicate in both English and a non-English language. Employees utilized for LEP services must demonstrate knowledge of the functions of an interpreter/translator and the ethical issues involved when acting as a language conduit.

When a qualified bilingual employee is not available, personnel from another department who have been identified as having the requisite skills and competence may be requested.

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204.9 AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS

Any person designated by the City to act as an authorized interpreter and/or translator must have demonstrated competence in both English and the involved non-English language, must have an understanding of the functions of an interpreter that allows for correct and effective translation, and should not be a person with an interest in the transaction involving the LEP individual. A person providing interpretation or translation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation or translation in a legal or other proceeding.

Authorized interpreters must pass a screening process established by the LEP coordinator that demonstrates their skills and abilities in the following areas:

- (a) The competence and ability to communicate information accurately in both English and in the target language.
- (b) Knowledge, in both languages, of any applicable specialized terms or concepts and of any particularized vocabulary or phraseology used by the LEP individual.
- (c) The ability to understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.
- (d) Knowledge of the ethical issues involved when acting as a language conduit.

204.9.1 SOURCES OF AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS

The City may contract with authorized interpreters who are available over the telephone. Employees may use these services with the approval of a supervisor and in compliance with established procedures.

Other sources may include:

- Qualified bilingual employees of another department within the City.
- Individuals employed exclusively to perform interpretation services.
- Contracted in-person interpreters, such as court interpreters, among others.

204.9.2 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER SOURCES OF LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE

Language assistance may be available from community volunteers who have demonstrated competence in either monolingual (direct) communication and/or in interpretation or translation (as noted in above), and have been approved by the City to communicate with LEP individuals.

Where qualified bilingual employees or other authorized interpreters are unavailable to assist, approved community volunteers who have demonstrated competence may be called upon when appropriate. However, employees must carefully consider the nature of the contact and the relationship between the LEP individual and the volunteer to ensure that the volunteer can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

While family or friends of an LEP individual may offer to assist with communication or interpretation, employees should carefully consider the circumstances before relying on such

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individuals. For example, children should not be relied upon except in exigent or very informal and non-confrontational situations.

204.10 CONTACT AND DOCUMENTATION

Although all public contacts, services, and individual rights are important, this city will utilize the four-factor analysis to prioritize service to LEP individuals so that such services may be targeted where they are most needed, according to the nature and importance of the particular activity involved.

Whenever any employee of this city is required to complete a report or other documentation that involves a situation in which interpretation services were provided to any involved LEP individual, such services should be noted in the related report or documentation. Employees should document the type of interpretation services utilized and whether the individual elected to use services provided by the City or some other identified source.

204.11 RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

The City will take reasonable steps to develop in-house language capacity by hiring or appointing qualified employees proficient in languages representative of the community being served.

204.11.1 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

City employees will make every reasonable effort to promptly accommodate LEP individuals who appear to be in need of emergency assistance. An employee who determines that a person in need of emergency assistance is an LEP individual should attempt to gather sufficient information to determine what type of assistance the person needs and to initiate an appropriate response to the situation. As soon as possible, if language assistance is still needed and the language is known, the employee should attempt to locate a qualified bilingual employee to assist with the situation.

If a qualified bilingual employee is not available or the employee is unable to identify the primary language used by the LEP individual, the employee should contact the contracted interpretation service for assistance.

204.12 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this city are important to the ultimate success of local government and achievement of the city's mission. This city will continue to work with community groups, local businesses, and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services.

204.13 TRAINING

To ensure that all employees who may have contact with LEP individuals are properly trained, the City will provide periodic training on this policy and related procedures, including how to access authorized telephonic and in-person interpreters and other available resources.

New employees should receive LEP training. Those who may have contact with LEP individuals should receive periodic refresher training. Training records should be maintained in each employee's personnel file in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

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204.13.1 TRAINING FOR AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS

All employees on the authorized interpreter list must successfully complete prescribed interpreter training. To complete interpreter training successfully, an interpreter must demonstrate proficiency in and ability to communicate information accurately in both English and in the target language, demonstrate knowledge in both languages of any specialized terms or phraseology, and understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.

Employees on the authorized interpreter list must receive refresher training annually or they will be removed from the authorized interpreter list. This annual training should include language skills competency (including specialized terminology) and ethical considerations.

Authorized interpreters will receive annual refresher training.

ADA Compliance

205.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for equal access to local government services, programs, and activities for persons with disabilities in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

This policy also includes guidelines to provide effective communication with persons with disabilities and to protect the rights of individuals who use service animals in accordance with the ADA.

205.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (28 CFR 35.104):

ADA coordinator - The employee designated by the City Manager to coordinate the City's efforts to comply with the ADA (28 CFR 35.107).

Assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and services - Tools used to communicate with people who have a disability or impairment. They include but are not limited to the use of gestures or visual aids to supplement oral communication; a notepad and pen or pencil to exchange written notes; a computer or typewriter; an assistive listening system or device to amplify sound; a teletypewriter (TTY) or videophones (video relay service or VRS); taped text; qualified readers; or a qualified interpreter.

Disability or impairment - A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, including hearing or seeing, regardless of whether the person uses assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and services. Individuals who wear ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses are not considered to have a disability (42 USC § 12102; 28 CFR 35.108).

Facility - All aspects of buildings, structures, sites, complexes, equipment, rolling stock or other conveyances, roads, walkways, parking areas, and other real or personal property (28 CFR 35.108).

Modification - Any change, adjustment, alteration, adaptation, or accommodation that renders a city service, program, or activity suitable for use, enjoyment, or participation by a person with a disability. This may include alteration of existing buildings and facilities.

A modification includes any change or exception to a policy, practice, or procedure that allows a person with a disability to have equal access to programs, services, and activities. It also includes the provision or use of assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and services.

Power-driven mobility device - Any mobility device powered by batteries, fuel, or other engine type used by persons with disabilities for mobility assistance, regardless of whether the device was primarily designed for that purpose (e.g., golf carts, Segway® PT, mobility scooters). For purposes of this policy, it does not include wheelchairs.

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Qualified interpreter - A person who is able to interpret effectively, accurately, and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary. Qualified interpreters include oral interpreters, transliterators, sign language interpreters, and intermediary interpreters.

Service animal - A dog that is trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual's disability.

Service animal also includes a miniature horse if the horse is trained to do work or perform tasks for persons with disabilities, provided the horse is housebroken, is under the handler's control, the building or facility can accommodate the horse's type, size, and weight, and the horse's presence will not compromise legitimate safety requirements necessary for safe operation of the facility (28 CFR 35.136(i)).

205.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City that persons with disabilities have equal access to city services, programs, and activities.

The City will not discriminate against or deny any individual access to services, programs, or activities based upon disabilities.

205.3 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COORDINATOR

The responsibilities of the ADA coordinator include but are not limited to (28 CFR 35.130):

- (a) Coordinating efforts among each city department to provide equal access to services, programs, and activities including:
 - 1. Establishing procedures to provide for the performance of routine maintenance on buildings, facilities, or equipment that provide access to persons with disabilities (28 CFR 35.133).
- (b) Recommending amendments to this policy, as needed.
- (c) Coordinating a process of periodic self-evaluation. The process should include:
 - 1. Inspection of current city buildings and facilities to identify access issues.
 - 2. Review of current city services, activities, and programs for access issues.
 - 3. Assessment and update of current compliance measures.
 - 4. Identification of recurring areas of complaint for which new methods of modification should be considered.
 - 5. Review of the city's emergency programs, services, and activities as they apply to persons with disabilities.
 - 6. Recommendation of a schedule to implement needed improvements.
- (d) Acting as a liaison with local disability advocacy groups or other disability groups regarding access to city services, programs, and activities.

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- (e) Developing procedures for the review and processing of requests for assistance or modifications that will help employees provide persons with disabilities access to city services, programs, and activities, as appropriate.
- (f) Providing notice to the public regarding the rights and protections afforded by the ADA (e.g., posters, published notices, handbooks, manuals, and pamphlets describing city services, programs, and activities and the availability of assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and services, as well as modifications) (28 CFR 35.106).
- (g) Developing procedures for employees to access assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and services, including qualified interpreters, and making the procedures available, as appropriate.
 - 1. A list of qualified interpreter services with contact and availability information should be maintained and easily accessible to employees.
- (h) Developing, implementing, and publishing appropriate procedures to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints and inquiries regarding discrimination in access to services, programs, and activities (28 CFR 35.107). The complaint procedures should include an appeal process.
- (i) Requiring third parties providing city services, programs, or activities through contract, outsourcing, licensing, or other arrangement to establish reasonable policies and procedures to prevent discrimination against and denial of access to persons with disabilities.
- (j) Developing and implementing procedures to provide that new construction and any alteration to an existing building or facility are undertaken in compliance with the ADA (28 CFR 35.151).
- (k) Developing and implementing procedures to provide that new construction and alteration of city-maintained roadways, highways, and streets include curb ramps or other sloped areas to make pedestrian-level walkways accessible as required by law (28 CFR 35.150(d)(2); 28 CFR 35.151(i)).
- (l) Coordinating with appropriate city staff to address the needs of persons with disabilities in the City's emergency disaster preparedness planning, including consideration of shelters and care facilities, transportation, means of evacuation, communication methods (e.g., warning and emergency notification systems), and post-disaster canvassing.

205.4 REQUESTS

The goal of any modification should be to allow the person to participate in the service, program, or activity the same as a person who does not have a disability.

Upon receiving a request for a modification, employees should make reasonable efforts to accommodate the request based on the preference of the person with the disability. Employees should not ask about the nature and extent of a person's disability, but should limit questions to information necessary to determine the need for a modification and the type of modification that is appropriate.

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If the requested modification, or an alternative modification, can reasonably be made at the time of the request, the employee should make the modification. An employee who is unable to accommodate a request or unsure about whether a request should be accommodated, should contact a supervisor.

The supervisor should review and approve the request, if practicable and appropriate. Otherwise, the supervisor should document the requesting person's contact information and the modification being requested and forward the request to the ADA coordinator for processing as soon as reasonably practicable.

205.4.1 DENIAL OF A REQUEST

The following should be considered before denying a request for modification:

- (a) Requests for modifications should be approved unless complying with the request would result in (28 CFR 35.150):
 - 1. A substantial alteration of the service, program, or activity.
 - 2. An undue financial or administrative burden on the City.
 - 3. All resources available for use in the funding and operation of the service, program, or activity at issue should be considered in this determination.
 - 4. A threat to or the destruction of the historic significance of an historic property.
 - 5. A direct threat to the health or safety of others (28 CFR 35.139).
- (b) If any of these circumstances are present, the ADA coordinator should work with department staff and the person requesting the modification to determine if an alternative modification is available.
- (c) Where physical modification of an existing building or facility, or new construction, would be unfeasible or unduly burdensome, the ADA coordinator should work with department staff to determine whether alternative modifications are available. Alternative methods that should be considered include (28 CFR 35.150):
 - 1. Reassigning services, programs, or activities to accessible buildings or facilities.
 - 2. Utilizing technology, equipment, rolling stock, or other conveyances.
 - 3. Delivering the services, programs, or activities directly to a person with a disability by way of home visits or meeting the person at an accessible location.
 - 4. Any other means or methods that would make services, programs, or activities readily accessible.
- (d) If no alternative modification is appropriate, the ADA coordinator shall issue a written statement explaining why a modification of the public service, program, or activity will not be made (28 CFR 35.150).

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205.4.2 PERSONAL DEVICES AND ASSISTANCE

Although employees should make every effort to comply with requests, the provision of personal devices or assistance (e.g., wheelchairs, eyeglasses, hearing aids, personal assistance in eating or using the restroom) to persons with disabilities is not required (28 CFR 35.135).

205.4.3 SURCHARGES

Surcharges shall not be imposed upon persons with disabilities to cover the costs of providing modifications to public services, programs, and activities (28 CFR 35.130(f)).

205.5 MOBILITY DEVICES

Wheelchairs and manually powered mobility devices such as walkers, crutches, canes, and braces are permitted in any areas open to pedestrians.

Power-driven mobility devices other than wheelchairs may be restricted only if a legitimate safety interest is identified that warrants the restriction (28 CFR 35.130(h); 28 CFR 35.137).

An employee should not ask a person using a power-driven mobility device to terminate the use of the device or leave the area unless an imminent and legitimate safety issue is present. If an employee is concerned about the use of a power-driven mobility device by a person with a disability, the employee should contact a supervisor.

The determination of whether a reasonable modification should be made for the use of a power-driven mobility device within a public building or facility should be based on whether the device, given its size and speed, can be safely used within the particular building or facility taking into account the layout and design of the building or facility, the amount of pedestrian traffic present in the building or facility, and whether there is any risk of damage to the building or facility or its immediate environment as set forth in 28 CFR 35.137.

205.5.1 INQUIRIES REGARDING MOBILITY DEVICES

If an individual is using a power-driven mobility device other than a wheelchair, the employee may seek credible assurance from the individual that the device is needed because of a disability. Credible assurance of the device's necessity may be provided in one of the following ways (28 CFR 35.137):

- (a) Presentation of a valid, state-issued disability placard or card
- (b) Presentation of any other state-issued proof of disability
- (c) A verbal statement, not contradicted by observable fact, that use of the device is necessary for mobility purposes

205.6 COMMUNICATIONS WITH PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Employees should remain alert to the possibility of communication problems when engaging with persons with disabilities. When an employee knows or suspects an individual requires assistance to effectively communicate, the employee should identify the individual's choice of assistive device, auxiliary aid, and service.

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The individual's preferred communication method should be honored unless another effective method of communication exists under the circumstances (28 CFR 35.160).

Factors to consider when determining whether an alternative method is effective include:

- (a) The methods of communication usually used by the individual.
- (b) The nature, length, and complexity of the communication involved.
- (c) The context of the communication.

In emergency situations involving an imminent threat to the safety or welfare of any person, employees may use whatever assistive device, auxiliary aid and service reasonably appears effective under the circumstances. This may include, for example, exchanging written notes or using the services of a person who knows sign language but is not a qualified interpreter, even if the person who is deaf or hard of hearing would prefer a qualified sign language interpreter or another appropriate assistive device, auxiliary aid, and service. Once the emergency has ended, the continued method of communication should be reconsidered. The employee should inquire as to the individual's preference and give primary consideration to that preference.

205.6.1 TYPES OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Employees shall not refuse an available type of assistive device, auxiliary aid, and service to a person with a disability who is requesting assistance. The City will not require persons with disabilities to furnish their own assistive device, auxiliary aid, and service as a condition for receiving assistance. The City will make every reasonable effort to provide equal access and timely assistance to persons with disabilities through a variety of assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and services.

Persons with disabilities may choose to accept city-provided assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and services, or they may choose to provide their own.

City-provided assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and services may include but are not limited to the assistance methods described in this policy.

205.6.2 AUDIO RECORDINGS AND ENLARGED PRINT

The City may develop audio recordings to assist people who are blind or have a visual impairment with accessing important information. If such a recording is not available, employees may read aloud from the appropriate form or provide forms with enlarged print.

205.6.3 QUALIFIED INTERPRETERS

A qualified interpreter may be needed in lengthy or complex interactions (e.g., public meetings or hearings, special or emergency meetings, plan reviews) for individuals who normally rely on sign language or speechreading (lip-reading) to understand what others are saying. The qualified interpreter should not be a person with an interest in the exchange. A person providing interpretation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation in a local government or legal proceeding.

Qualified interpreters should be:

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- (a) Available within a reasonable amount of time.
- (b) Experienced in providing interpretation services.
- (c) Familiar with the use of VRS and/or video remote interpreting services.
- (d) Certified in either American Sign Language (ASL) or Signed English (SE).
- (e) Able to understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.
- (f) Knowledgeable of the ethical issues involved when providing interpreter services.

Employees should use city-approved procedures to request a qualified interpreter at the earliest reasonable opportunity or when it is reasonably apparent that an interpreter is needed. Persons with disabilities shall not be required to provide their own interpreters (28 CFR 35.160).

205.6.4 TTY AND RELAY SERVICES

The City will accept all TTY or TDD calls placed by those who are deaf or hard of hearing and received via a telecommunications relay service.

Note that relay services translate verbatim, so the conversation must be conducted as if speaking directly to the caller.

205.6.5 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Interpreter services may be available from community volunteers who have demonstrated competence in communication services, such as ASL or SE, and have been approved by the City to provide interpreter services.

When qualified interpreters are unavailable to assist, approved community volunteers who have demonstrated competence may be called upon when appropriate. However, city employees must carefully consider the nature of the interaction and the relationship between the person with the disability and the volunteer to be reasonably satisfied that the volunteer can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

205.6.6 FAMILY AND FRIENDS

While family or friends may offer to assist with interpretation, employees should carefully consider the circumstances before relying on such individuals. The nature of the interaction and relationship between the person with the disability and the person offering services must be carefully considered to determine whether the family member or friend can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

Children shall not be relied upon except in emergency or critical situations when there is no qualified interpreter reasonably available.

Adults may be relied upon when (28 CFR 35.160):

- (a) There is an emergency or critical situation and there is no qualified interpreter reasonably available.

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- (b) The person with the disability requests that the adult interpret or facilitate communication and the adult agrees to provide such assistance, and reliance on that adult for such assistance is reasonable under the circumstances.

205.6.7 FIELD ENFORCEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

It is important that employees are able to effectively communicate with persons with disabilities even though the location of the communication may hinder the employee's ability to provide assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and other services in a prompt manner.

Employees involved in interactions with persons with disabilities that occur in the field and that could result in any type of civil or criminal enforcement action (e.g., issuing code enforcement citations, shutting off a utility service) should assess each situation to determine if communication assistance is necessary. The length, complexity, and importance of the communication, as well as the individual's preferred method of communication, should be considered when determining what, if any, resources should be used and whether a qualified interpreter or other service is needed.

205.7 SERVICE ANIMALS

Service animals that are assisting persons with disabilities are permitted in all city buildings and facilities and other areas where the general public is allowed. City employees are expected to treat people with service animals with the same courtesy and respect that the City affords to all members of the public (28 CFR 35.136).

205.7.1 IDENTIFICATION AND USE OF SERVICE ANIMALS

Some service animals may be readily identifiable. However, many do not have a distinctive symbol, harness, or collar.

Service animals may be used in a number of ways to provide assistance, including:

- (a) Guiding people who are blind or have low vision.
- (b) Alerting people who are blind or have low vision.
- (c) Retrieving or picking up items, opening doors, or flipping switches for people who have limited use of their hands, arms, or legs.
- (d) Pulling wheelchairs.
- (e) Providing physical support and assisting with stability and balance.
- (f) Doing work or performing tasks for people with traumatic brain injury, intellectual disabilities, or psychiatric disabilities, such as reminding a person with depression to take medication.
- (g) Alerting a person with anxiety to the onset of panic attacks, providing tactile stimulation to calm a person with post-traumatic stress disorder, assisting people with schizophrenia to distinguish between hallucinations and reality, and helping people with traumatic brain injury to locate misplaced items or follow daily routines.

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205.7.2 INQUIRIES REGARDING SERVICE ANIMALS

If it is apparent or if an employee is aware that an animal is a service animal, the individual generally should not be asked any questions as to the status of the animal. If it is unclear whether an animal meets the definition of a service animal, the employee should ask the individual only the following questions (28 CFR 35.136(f)):

- (a) Is the animal required because of a disability?
- (b) What task or service has the service animal been trained to perform?

If the individual explains that the animal is required because of a disability and has been trained to work or perform at least one task, the animal meets the definition of a service animal and no further questions as to the animal's status should be asked. Employees should not question individuals about their disabilities nor should employees ask any individual to provide a license, certification, or identification card for a service animal.

205.7.3 CONTACT WITH SERVICE ANIMALS

Service animals are not pets. City employees should not interfere with the important work performed by a service animal by talking to, petting, or otherwise initiating contact with a service animal.

205.7.4 REMOVAL OF SERVICE ANIMALS

If a service animal is not housebroken or exhibits vicious behavior, poses a direct threat to the health of others, or unreasonably disrupts or interferes with normal business operations, an employee should notify an appropriate supervisor who may direct the handler to remove the animal from the premises. Barking alone is not a threat nor does a direct threat exist if the person takes prompt, effective action to control the service animal (28 CFR 35.136(b)).

Each incident must be considered individually, and past incidents alone are not cause for excluding a service animal. Removal of a service animal may not be used as a reason to refuse access to services, programs, or activities to a person with a disability. Employees are expected to provide all services that are reasonably available to a person with a disability, with or without a service animal.

205.8 WEBSITE ACCESS

The ADA coordinator should work with appropriate city employees to develop online content that is readily accessible to persons with disabilities. City web content should be developed in conformance with the most current guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Website content should also be made available to persons with disabilities in an alternative format upon request, if reasonably practicable.

205.9 DOCUMENTATION

Whenever any modification, assistive device, auxiliary aid, and service has been provided, the employee involved should document:

ADA Compliance

- (a) The type of modification, aid, or service provided.
- (b) Whether the individual elected to use an assistive device, auxiliary aid, and service provided by the City or some other identified source, if applicable.
- (c) Whether the individual's express preference for the modification, assistive device, auxiliary aid, and service was not honored, and the reason why an alternative method was used.

The documentation and any written communications exchanged should be maintained consistent with the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

205.10 COMPLAINTS

An employee who receives a complaint or becomes aware of potential disability discrimination, an ADA violation, or a person's inability to access a city program, service, or activity should document the complaint and refer the matter to the ADA coordinator (28 CFR 35.107).

205.11 TRAINING

Employees who may have contact with persons with disabilities should receive periodic training on ADA compliance, to include:

- (a) Awareness and understanding of this policy and related procedures, related forms, and available resources.
- (b) Procedures for handling requests for modifications.
- (c) Accessing assistive devices, auxiliary aids, and services needed to communicate with persons with disabilities.
- (d) General requirements of the ADA, including modifying policies and practices, communicating with and assisting customers, accepting calls placed through alternative systems, and identifying alternate ways to provide access to programs, services, and activities as appropriate to the employee's job duties.

Training records should be maintained in each employee's personnel file in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

Emergency Management Plan

206.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy addresses the preparation, maintenance, and activation of the Williamson County Emergency Operations Plan.

206.2 POLICY

The City will prepare for large-scale emergencies within and outside its jurisdiction through planning, mutual cooperation with other agencies, and execution of the Williamson County Emergency Operations Plan.

206.3 ACTIVATING THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Williamson County Emergency Operations Plan can be activated in response to a major emergency by the WCEMA Director.

206.3.1 RECALL OF PERSONNEL

In the event that the Williamson County Emergency Operations Plan is activated, all employees of the City are subject to immediate recall to service. Employees may also be subject to recall during extraordinary circumstances as deemed necessary.

Failure to promptly respond to an order to report to work may result in discipline.

206.4 LOCATION OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Williamson County Emergency Operations Plan can be accessed using the link below.

All supervisors should be aware that the Williamson County Emergency Operation Plan exists to aid the city in the event of an emergency. Employees may be directed to perform specific duties and roles when the plan is implemented.

Williamson County Emergency Operations Plan

Chapter 3 - Facilities

Key and Electronic Access Device Controls

300.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The control and accountability of keys is important to maintain a safe and secure environment for employees and members of the public.

300.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Key - All electronic or mechanical devices used to access or exit city buildings and facilities. It includes proximity cards, key fobs, and other electronic access devices.

300.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City that all keys used to access local government buildings and facilities are inventoried and controlled.

300.3 KEY IDENTIFICATION

All keys that open any doors or locks to city buildings or facilities should be marked with unique identification codes that will allow for quick inventory. Keys that are bundled together as a set should be numbered or coded with a tag to identify that set and the number of keys on the ring. The identifying numbers or codes on keys should not correspond to numbers/codes on locks.

A separate secure document identifying all keys will be maintained by the City Manager or the authorized designee.

300.4 KEY CONTROL

Keys may be issued to employees or accessed and checked out by authorized employees from secure designated areas. Keys issued to or accessed and checked out by employees shall be limited to only those keys necessary for the employee's position.

Employees shall not loan a key or key set to another person. All keys must be issued or checked out through the control process. Employees shall not possess any key for which they have not been authorized.

All keys issued or checked out to employees remain the property of the City. Employees shall not duplicate, mark, alter, or manufacture any key without written authorization from the City Manager or the authorized designee.

The City Manager or the authorized designee should regularly inventory all city keys.

300.5 LOCK POLICY

All city buildings and facilities should be kept locked during non-operating hours. Employees shall not leave public entrances to city buildings and facilities unlocked or propped open during non-operating hours. Employees should never leave non-public entrances to city buildings and facilities unlocked or propped open.

Key and Electronic Access Device Controls

300.6 TESTING

The City Manager or the authorized designee should periodically test locks to doors and gates for proper function and document the testing.

300.7 EMERGENCY KEY SET

At least one key set containing every key for city buildings and facilities should be kept separate from all of the other key sets in a secure location and made accessible only to the City Manager or the authorized designee in the event of an emergency.

300.8 MISSING KEYS

Any employee who discovers that a key or key set is missing shall report it to a supervisor as soon as reasonably practicable. If a reasonable effort to locate the key fails, the supervisor shall notify the City Manager or the authorized designee regarding the loss of the key, when it was discovered, and the circumstances involved.

The City Manager or the authorized designee will determine whether to re-key any locks that may have been compromised, and whether this should be done immediately.

300.9 DAMAGED KEYS OR LOCKS

Malfunctioning or damaged keys or locks shall be promptly reported to a supervisor. No part of a broken key should be left in the lock. All portions of the damaged key must be turned in to a supervisor, who will provide a replacement key as needed. Damaged locks should be replaced or repaired as soon as practicable. Appropriate security measures should be taken until such time as the lock is properly restored.

300.10 KEY CONTROL RECORDS

The City Manager or the authorized designee will maintain documentation for the accounting and security of all keys and key sets. Key control measures should be documented by the designated employee and the records retained in accordance with established records retention schedule.

Use of Public Facilities

301.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance regarding the permitting process for the use of city facilities by members of the public.

This policy does not apply to spontaneous expressive activities such as demonstrations or to expressive activities of groups of fewer than 50 people. Nor does it apply to other gatherings of fewer than 50 persons when the department head has developed appropriate nondiscriminatory application or request processes for the use of city facilities under the control of the department head.

301.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Applicant - Any individual, group, or organization seeking approval to use city facilities.

Facilities - Any buildings, rooms, structures, sites, complexes, parks, roads, walkways, parking areas, equipment, and other real or personal property owned or leased by the city that are made available for use by the general public.

301.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to make certain facilities available for public use in a fair and equitable manner based on an established application and permitting process.

301.3 PERMIT PROCESS

The City Manager or the authorized designee should develop, implement, and maintain a permitting process for the use of city facilities. The process should include:

- (a) A standardized application and reservation system.
- (b) An application submittal period and review process.
- (c) A method of communicating confirmations and denials of applications.
- (d) Permit forms for facility use.
- (e) A fee schedule for facility use and for payment of deposits, balances due, and refunds.
- (f) A nondiscriminatory process for establishing how much liability insurance will be required from applicants.
- (g) A process for making changes to existing reservations and for cancellations.
- (h) The designation of city employees responsible for enforcing permit terms.
- (i) Rules and regulations for facility use (e.g., cleaning, smoking/vaping, alcohol use, food and beverage sales or service, insurance coverage).
- (j) A process for determining when free speech expression areas will be necessary and a process for designation and monitoring of such areas, when used.

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Use of Public Facilities

The City Manager should oversee adoption and maintenance of city requirements related to facility use permits, including duration of use, traffic control, and noise limitations.

301.3.1 APPLICATION REVIEW

- (a) The following should be considered when determining whether to grant or deny an application for facility use:
 - 1. The application should be complete and not contain false or misleading information.
 - 2. The activity or event should not pose unreasonable health or safety risks.
 - 3. Appropriate ancillary facilities such as parking and sanitary facilities should be available and adequate for the activity or event.
 - 4. The activity or event should not pose an unreasonable risk of damage to city facilities.
 - 5. An application should be denied if the applicant has damaged city facilities in the past and has failed to pay for the damages.
 - 6. Adequate supervision and security personnel for the activity or event should be provided by the applicant.
- (b) When determining whether to grant or deny an application for facility use, the City shall not consider an applicant's:
 - 1. Actual or perceived classification or status protected by law, such as religion, race, or gender identity or expression.
 - 2. Political, social, or ideological beliefs.
 - 3. Viewpoint, message, or program content and any anticipated response.

301.3.2 PERMIT TERMS

Permits should contain the applicant's agreement to:

- (a) Return the facilities to their original condition and assume responsibility for any damage or loss sustained.
- (b) Comply with all federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances, as well as all permit requirements and conditions imposed by the City.
- (c) Refrain from promoting, permitting, or engaging in illegal activity.
- (d) Obtain a general liability insurance policy in the amount required naming the City as an additional insured and identifying the policy as primary to the city's insurance coverage.
- (e) Make it clear to the public that the activity or event is the applicant's and that any message is not endorsed or made by the City.

Permits should also contain notice to the permittee that failure to comply with permit terms may result in enforcement action and denial of future applications.

Use of Public Facilities

301.4 DISTURBANCES OR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Non-law enforcement employees should not attempt to physically control a person or group that is creating a disturbance or engaging in criminal activity on city property during a permitted activity or event. Such instances, as well as unapproved demonstrations or acts of civil disobedience, should be reported to law enforcement for handling.

301.5 RECORDS

All records created and submitted during and related to the permitting process should be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

Holiday Displays

302.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on holiday displays by the City.

The use of city facilities by members of the public or private groups is addressed in the Use of Public Facilities Policy.

Memorials on city property are addressed in the Memorials on Public Property Policy.

302.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City that city seasonal temporary holiday displays be appropriate and lawful.

302.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The City Manager should review and approve each city holiday display.

The City Manager's review should be completed prior to installation of the display and should include a review of the following:

- (a) The location of the display, including the types of structures and properties immediately adjacent to the display.
- (b) The manner and format in which the different secular and non-secular decorations will be displayed.
- (c) Whether the display complies with the criteria set forth in this policy.

If the City Manager has any concerns regarding the content of the display, counsel should be consulted prior to proceeding.

302.4 REVIEW CRITERIA

A city holiday display should not have an overall effect of supporting or endorsing a religion or denigrating or inhibiting any religion or religious belief. When reviewing a proposed display, the City Manager should consider the following:

- (a) The holiday display should:
 1. Have a primary purpose that is secular.
 2. Recognize the celebration of the holidays and/or seasonal traditions (e.g., lights, snowflakes, Santa Claus in the winter; bunnies, baskets, eggs in the spring).
 3. Include religious symbols only if they are accompanied by numerous other non-religious holiday items and in a non-religious setting.
- (b) The holiday display should not:
 1. Include religious symbols (e.g., a nativity scene, a cross, a menorah) alone or in a setting that focuses on or draws attention to a specific religion or the religious nature of a symbol.
 2. Be placed in any location that makes it appear that the display endorses a religion (e.g., on property adjacent to a church, other religious institution, or area

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Holiday Displays

connected to a religion; on city property that has a statue, monument, or sign that in combination with a holiday display might appear to endorse a religion).

3. Be used for any religious practices or ceremonies.

Memorials on Public Property

303.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on the review and approval of city memorials and the relocation, alteration, or removal of existing memorials on city property.

This policy addresses memorials established by the City and memorials requested or donated by members of the public.

This policy does not apply to the following:

- (a) Works of art that are not memorial or commemorative in nature
- (b) Signage or plaques placed on city property for the purpose of acknowledging a donor or sponsor
- (c) Historical markers or placards that provide information to the public

Temporary displays on city property are addressed in the Holiday Displays and the Use of Public Facilities policies.

303.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Memorial - A permanent monument, museum, building, garden, plaque, sculpture, or the like intended to commemorate or preserve the memory of a person, group, action, or event.

303.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City that memorials on city property be considered and approved pursuant to this policy.

303.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The City Manager or the authorized designee should:

- (a) Establish procedures for the submission, review, and approval of requests by members of the public for new city memorials or for the removal, alteration, or relocation of existing memorials. The procedures should include:
 - 1. That all requests be submitted in writing.
 - 2. For new memorials, that the request includes detailed information regarding the form and substance of the proposed memorial, the proposed location, and the proposed source of funding.
 - (a) The proposed memorial should be presented either in fully finished form or in a model prior to final acceptance by the City.
 - 3. For existing memorials, that the request includes the reason for the requested removal, relocation, or alteration.
 - (a) Requests for relocation should identify the new proposed location.

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Memorials on Public Property

- (b) Requests for alteration should detail the type and form of the proposed alteration.
- 4. Review by any appropriate department.
- 5. The opportunity for input from members of the public.
- 6. The opportunity for the City to ask the requester for modifications to a proposed memorial, relocation, or alteration consistent with this policy.
- 7. That any denial of a request be documented.
- 8. An appeal process to the City Manager or the governing body for application denials or modification requests.
- (b) Provide notice to members of the public making requests that:
 - 1. For new memorials, the memorial becomes the property of the City upon installation.
 - 2. The City may deny any request after a review of the request under the procedures established by this policy.
 - 3. The City will make a final determination as to the location of all new or relocated memorials within the City.
 - 4. Existing memorials on city property do not establish a precedent for any future approvals.
- (c) Adopt and maintain additional city requirements relating to new memorials or the removal, alteration, or relocation of existing memorials.
 - 1. Requirements may include size, material quality, and appearance standards.
- (d) Coordinate a process for the periodic review of existing memorials to consider whether:
 - 1. Relocation, alteration, or removal is appropriate. This process should include the evaluation of the overall condition of the memorial and whether there are any reasons to consider the relocation, alteration, or removal of the memorial.
 - 2. Designation as a historic landmark or district under federal, state, or local laws or guidelines is appropriate for any memorials.
- (e) Create a list of all memorials within the City that includes the type of memorial, the current location of the memorial, and any specific maintenance, safety, or access information relevant to the memorial.

303.4 CONSIDERATIONS FOR NEW MEMORIALS

The following criteria should be considered for all new memorials:

- (a) The memorial should:
 - 1. Support or promote the common history of the City, local culture, civic identity, or mission of the City.
 - 2. Be of historical or social significance.

Memorials on Public Property

3. Be located in an area that is connected with the person or event being commemorated.
 4. Be compatible with the area surrounding the proposed location.
 - (a) The size, content, and appearance of the memorial should improve or otherwise enhance the social and physical environment of the surrounding area.
 5. Comply with any additional city requirements related to memorials.
- (b) The memorial should not:
1. Present unreasonable maintenance, security, environmental, or access issues.
 2. Be offensive to a reasonable person.
 3. Reasonably appear to be promoting, favoring, or inhibiting any religion or political affiliation.

Consideration should be given to how the memorial corresponds with other memorials in the immediately surrounding area and in the City generally.

303.5 CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE REMOVAL, ALTERATION, OR RELOCATION OF EXISTING MEMORIALS

The following criteria should be applied to all cases where the removal, alteration, or relocation of a memorial is being considered, whether initiated by a request from members of the public or internally by city officials or staff.

- (a) The memorial should be removed, altered, or relocated, as appropriate, if:
1. The memorial has deteriorated to the extent that it cannot be safely maintained in its current location.
 2. Security issues make the current location unreasonable.
 3. The memorial is damaged beyond reasonable repair.
 4. Social or environmental changes to the location or surrounding area have made the memorial no longer appropriate for the location.
 5. The memorial is no longer sufficiently connected to the common history, local culture, or mission of the City.
 6. A more appropriate alternative location for the memorial is reasonably available.
- (b) The memorial should not be removed, altered, or relocated:
1. If federal, state, or local laws restrict the removal, alteration, or relocation of the memorial.
 2. Without appropriate pre-approvals from federal, state, or local officials, as required.
 3. If removal, alteration, or relocation is not consistent with additional requirements adopted or maintained by the City Manager.

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4. Without final approval of the City's governing body.

303.6 DAMAGE OR DETERIORATION

Employees who observe damage to or significant deterioration of an existing memorial should report the damage to a supervisor. Appropriate repairs may be made with supervisory approval.

If damage or deterioration to a memorial reasonably appears to present a safety issue, access to the memorial should be restricted and a supervisor should be immediately notified.

303.7 DOCUMENTATION

The following should be created and maintained consistent with the established records retention schedule:

- (a) The list of memorials within the City.
- (b) Documentation relating to the approval of any new memorials.
- (c) Documentation relating to the removal, relocation, or alteration, of any memorial, including the reason for the action, and whether the memorial has been stored or otherwise disposed of.

Flags

304.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the proper display of flags at city facilities.

304.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to display flags in compliance with federal and state laws and local ordinances.

304.3 DISPLAY OF FLAGS

Flags flown at city facilities will be displayed in the following order of prominence:

- (a) The United States flag
- (b) Flags of foreign governments recognized by the United States when flown with the United States flag
- (c) The state flag
- (d) The city flag
- (e) The department flag
- (f) Any commemorative flags

304.4 DISPLAYING THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

Federal law providing for the use and the display of the United States flag is contained in Title 4 Chapter 1 of the United States Code, commonly referred to as the "Flag Code." The City will display the flag of the United States in accordance with the provisions of 4 USC § 1 through 4 USC § 10.

304.4.1 DISPLAY OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG IN DAILY OPERATIONS

Employees should consult the Flag Code for guidance whenever the flag of the United States is to be displayed in any manner. This is to ensure that the display is presented in accordance with the Flag Code and as follows:

- (a) The United States flag should be conspicuously posted on all city facilities during hours of operation.
- (b) It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on a stationary flagstaff in the open. However, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if it is properly illuminated during the hours of darkness (4 USC § 6).
- (c) The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed (4 USC § 6).
- (d) The United States flag may only be flown at half-staff by Presidential or Gubernatorial decree, and on Memorial Day until noon (4 USC § 7).

Whenever the United States flag is displayed in conjunction with other flags or symbols it should occupy the "Place of Honor" (4 USC § 7).

Flags

304.5 DISPLAY OF THE STATE FLAG

The City will display the state flag prominently and in the proper position of honor in accordance with the United States Flag Code.

304.5.1 DISPLAY OF THE STATE FLAG IN DAILY OPERATIONS

Employees should review state law for guidance whenever the flag is to be displayed in any manner to ensure that the display is presented appropriately. Displays of the flag should be consistent with the following protocol:

- (a) The flag should be conspicuously posted on all city facilities during hours of operation.
- (b) Generally, the flag should be displayed only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on a stationary flagstaff in the open. However, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if it is properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.
- (c) The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed.
- (d) The flag shall be flown at half-staff whenever the flag of the United States is flown at half-staff, and may only be flown at half-staff at other times by order of the Governor.
- (e) Whenever the flag is displayed in conjunction with the United States flag, the United States flag shall occupy the position of first honor (4 USC § 7). When the flag is displayed in conjunction with other flags or symbols, it should occupy the position of honor.

304.6 DISPLAY OF COMMEMORATIVE OR UNOFFICIAL FLAGS

City flag displays, including but not limited to flagstaffs, are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public. Commemorative flags or flags not identified in this policy, including flags of a government not recognized by the United States, should not be displayed by the City without prior approval from the City Manager.

Chapter 4 - Equipment

Local Government-Owned and Personal Property

400.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy addresses the care of city-owned property and the role of the City when personal property, the property of another person or entity, or city-owned property is damaged or lost.

400.2 POLICY

The City will ensure that employees are issued appropriate property and equipment necessary for the employee's job function. The City will take steps to minimize the cost associated with maintaining city property, including personal property authorized for use in the employee's duties.

400.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT-ISSUED PROPERTY

Supervisors should document all property and equipment issued by the City in the appropriate file at the time of issuance. Receipt of issued items shall be acknowledged by the receiving employee's signature. Upon separation from the City, all issued property and equipment shall be returned. Documentation of the return shall be acknowledged by the signature of a supervisor.

400.3.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees shall be responsible for the safekeeping, serviceable condition, proper care, proper use, and replacement of city property that has been assigned or entrusted to them.

- (a) Employees shall promptly report, through their supervisors, any loss of, damage to, or unserviceable condition of any city-issued property or equipment.
- (b) The use of damaged or unserviceable property should be discontinued as soon as practicable, and the item replaced with a comparable item as soon as available.
- (c) Except when otherwise directed by a supervisor or when exigent circumstances exist, city-issued property shall only be used by those to whom it was assigned. Use should be limited to official purposes and in the capacity for which it was designed.
- (d) City-issued property shall not be thrown away, sold, traded, donated, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of without prior approval.
- (e) Employees should obtain a supervisor's approval before any attempt to repair damaged or unserviceable property, unless the repair is of a minor or temporary nature.

400.4 PERSONAL PROPERTY

Personal property or equipment shall not be carried during work hours or used for work-related purposes without prior approval by the City Manager or appropriate supervisor. The employee should submit a request that includes a description of the property and the reason and length of time it will be used. Personal property of the type routinely carried (e.g., cell phone, wallet, sunglasses) is excluded from this requirement (see the Personal Communication Devices Policy).

The City will not replace or repair property that is not reasonably required as part of work.

Local Government-Owned and Personal Property

400.4.1 FILING CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY

An employee requesting reimbursement for damage to, or loss of, personal property must submit the request in writing to the employee's immediate supervisor.

Upon review by the supervisor and a finding that no misconduct or negligence was involved, repair or replacement may be recommended to the City Manager or the authorized designee, who will then forward the claim to the department responsible for issuing payments.

400.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The supervisor receiving a report that property, including personal property authorized for use, has been damaged should conduct an investigation and direct a memo to the City Manager or the authorized designee. The memo should include the result of the investigation and whether reasonable care was taken to prevent the loss, damage, or unserviceable condition.

In cases where the supervisor has reason to believe that misconduct or negligence was involved in the loss, damage, or unserviceable condition of property, the supervisor should consider whether disciplinary or other corrective action would be appropriate.

400.6 DAMAGE TO PROPERTY OF ANOTHER PERSON OR ENTITY

Employees who intentionally or unintentionally damage or cause to be damaged the real or personal property of another person or entity while performing any city function shall promptly report the damage to a supervisor.

400.6.1 DAMAGE BY OTHERS

Employees who observe damage to the real or personal property of the City should report the damage as follows:

- (a) A verbal report should be made to the employee's immediate supervisor and to the employee or department responsible for the property as soon as practicable.
- (b) A written report should be submitted before the end of the employee's workday or as otherwise directed by the supervisor.

Personal Communication Devices

401.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the use of mobile telephones and other communication devices, whether issued or funded by the City or personally owned, during work hours or when used for authorized work-related purposes.

This policy generically refers to all such devices as Personal Communication Devices (PCDs) but is intended to include all mobile telephones, wireless-capable tablets and similar wireless two-way communications, and/or portable internet access devices. PCD use includes but is not limited to placing and receiving calls, text messaging, blogging and microblogging, emailing, using video or camera features, playing games, and accessing sites or services on the internet.

401.2 POLICY

The City allows employees to utilize city-issued or funded PCDs and to possess personally owned PCDs in the workplace, subject to certain limitations. Any PCD used during work hours, or during non-work hours, for business-related purposes, or reasonably associated with work-related misconduct will be subject to monitoring and inspection consistent with applicable law and this policy.

Additionally, the use of a PCD either during work hours or non-work hours for business-related purposes, or reasonably associated with work-related misconduct, may subject the employee and the employee's PCD records to civil or criminal discovery or disclosure under applicable public records laws.

Employees who have questions regarding the application of this policy or the guidelines contained herein are encouraged to seek clarification from supervisory staff.

401.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Employees forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to any communication accessed, transmitted, received, or reviewed on any PCD issued or funded by the City and shall have no expectation of privacy in their location should the device be equipped with location-detection capabilities. This includes records of all keystrokes or web-browsing history made on the PCD. The fact that access to a database, service, or website requires a username or password will not create an expectation of privacy if it is accessed through city PCDs or networks (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

Employees have no expectation of privacy regarding any communications while using a personally owned PCD for city-related business or when the use reasonably implicates work-related misconduct.

401.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT-ISSUED PCD

Depending on an employee's assignment and the needs of the position, the City may, at its discretion, issue or fund a PCD for the employee's use to facilitate work performance. City-issued or funded PCDs may not be used for personal business during or after work hours unless

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Personal Communication Devices

authorized by the City Manager or the authorized designee. Such devices and the associated telephone number, if any, shall remain the sole property of the City and shall be subject to inspection or monitoring (including all related records and content) at any time without notice and without cause

Unless an employee is expressly authorized by the City Manager or the authorized designee to use the PCD during non-work hours, the PCD will be either secured in the workplace at the completion of the workday or turned off when leaving the workplace.

401.5 PERSONALLY OWNED PCD

Employees may carry a personally owned PCD during work hours, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

- (a) Permission to carry a personally owned PCD may be revoked if it is used contrary to provisions of this policy.
- (b) The City accepts no responsibility for loss of or damage to a personally owned PCD.
- (c) The PCD and any associated services shall be purchased, used, and maintained solely at the employee's expense.
- (d) The device should not be used for work-related purposes except in exigent circumstances (e.g., unavailability of internal communication systems) or as otherwise authorized by city procedures.
 - 1. Use of a personally owned PCD for work-related business constitutes consent for the City to access the PCD to inspect and copy the work-related data (e.g., for litigation purposes, public records retention and release obligations, internal investigations).
 - 2. Use of and data within a personally owned PCD may be discoverable in cases when there is reason to believe it is associated with work-related misconduct.
 - 3. Searches of a personally owned PCD by the City should be limited to those matters reasonably associated with the work-related business or work-related misconduct.
- (e) The device shall not be utilized to record or disclose any city business-related information, including photographs, video, or the recording or transmittal of any information or material obtained or made accessible as a result of employment or appointment with the City, without the express authorization of the City Manager or the authorized designee.
- (f) If the PCD is carried during work hours, employees will provide the City with the telephone number of the device.
- (g) All work-related documents, emails, photographs, recordings, and other public records created or received on an employee's personally owned PCD should be transferred to the City and deleted from the employee's PCD as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than the end of the employee's workday.

Personal Communication Devices

Except with prior express authorization from their supervisors, employees are not obligated or required to carry, access, monitor, or respond to electronic communications using a personally owned PCD during non-work hours. If an employee is in an authorized status that allows for appropriate compensation consistent with policy or existing employment agreements, or if the employee has prior express authorization from a supervisor, the employee may engage in city business-related communications. Should employees engage in such approved communications or work during non-work hours, employees entitled to compensation shall promptly document the time worked and communicate the information to their supervisors to ensure appropriate compensation. Employees who independently document city-related business activities conducted during non-work hours in any manner shall promptly provide the City with a copy of such records to ensure accurate recordkeeping.

401.6 USE OF PCD

The following protocols shall apply to all PCDs that are carried during work hours or used to conduct city business:

- (a) All PCDs in the workplace shall be set to silent or vibrate mode.
- (b) A PCD may not be used to conduct personal business during work hours except for brief personal communications (e.g., informing family of extended hours). Employees shall endeavor to limit their use of PCDs to authorized break times unless an emergency exists.
- (c) Employees may use a PCD to communicate with other personnel in situations where the use of city-provided communications methods is either impracticable or not feasible. PCDs should not be used as a substitute for, as a way to avoid, or in lieu of regular city-provided communications methods.
- (d) Employees are prohibited from taking pictures, audio or video recordings, or making copies of any such picture or recording media unless it is directly related to official city business. Disclosure of any such information to any third party through any means requires the express authorization of the City Manager or the authorized designee.
- (e) Employees will not access social networking sites for any purpose that is not official city business. This restriction does not apply to a personally owned PCD used during authorized break times.
- (f) Using PCDs to harass, threaten, coerce, or otherwise engage in inappropriate conduct with any third party is prohibited. Any employee having knowledge of such conduct shall promptly notify a supervisor.

401.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of supervisors include but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring that employees under their supervision are provided appropriate training on the use of PCDs consistent with this policy.
- (b) Monitoring to the extent practicable, PCD use in the workplace and taking prompt corrective action if an employee is observed or reported to be improperly using a PCD.

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Personal Communication Devices

1. An investigation into improper conduct should be promptly initiated when circumstances warrant.
2. Before conducting any administrative search of an employee's personally owned device, supervisors should consult with the City Manager or the authorized designee.

401.8 OFFICIAL USE

Employees are reminded that PCDs are not secure devices and conversations may be intercepted or overheard. Caution should be exercised while utilizing PCDs to ensure that sensitive information is not inadvertently transmitted. As soon as reasonably possible, employees shall conduct sensitive or private communications on a land-based or other city communications network.

401.9 USE WHILE DRIVING

Employees operating vehicles shall not use a PCD while driving unless the device is specifically designed and configured to allow hands-free use. Hands-free use should be restricted to urgent business-related calls.

Vehicle Maintenance

402.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that city vehicles are appropriately maintained.

402.2 POLICY

The City will service department vehicles to ensure they remain operational and maintain their appearance, as resources allow.

402.3 GENERAL DUTIES

Employees are responsible for assisting in maintaining city vehicles so that they are properly equipped, maintained, and refueled and present a clean appearance.

402.4 DEFECTIVE VEHICLES

When a vehicle becomes inoperative or in need of repair that affects the safety of the vehicle, that vehicle shall be removed from service. Proper documentation shall be promptly completed by the employee who becomes aware of the defective condition and forwarded to a supervisor for action.

Documents describing the correction of the safety issue shall be promptly filed by the supervisor with the vehicle history.

402.4.1 DAMAGE OR POOR PERFORMANCE

Vehicles that may have been damaged or perform poorly shall be removed from service for inspections and repairs as soon as practicable.

402.4.2 SEVERE USE

Vehicles operated under severe-use conditions, which include operations for which the vehicle is not designed or that exceed the manufacturer's parameters, should be removed from service and subjected to a safety inspection as soon as practicable. Such conditions may include rough roadway or off-road driving, hard or extended braking, and severe weather exposure.

402.4.3 REMOVAL OF WEAPONS

Only authorized firearms, weapons, or control devices shall be carried in city vehicles. Any authorized firearms, weapons, and control devices shall be removed from a vehicle and properly secured prior to the vehicle being released for maintenance, service, or repair.

402.5 VEHICLE REFUELING

Generally, vehicles should not be operated with less than one-quarter tank of fuel. Vehicles should not be returned to the pool or the assigned department at the end of the workday with less than one-quarter tank of fuel. Vehicles shall only be refueled at an authorized location.

402.6 WASHING OF VEHICLES

Vehicles shall be kept clean at all times and, weather conditions permitting, shall be washed as necessary to maintain the professional appearance of the City.

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Vehicle Maintenance

Employees using a vehicle shall remove any trash or debris at the end of their workday. Confidential material should be placed in a designated receptacle that has been provided for shredding this material.

Vehicle Use

403.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for employees who use vehicles for city business. This policy does not create or imply any contractual obligation by the City to provide assigned vehicles.

Individual department heads may have additional policies for vehicle use to address specific vehicles (e.g., emergency vehicles) and duty assignments (e.g., law enforcement undercover work).

403.2 POLICY

The City authorizes the use of certain vehicles for official city business to enhance operational efficiency and requires that vehicles are operated in a safe and legal manner.

403.3 USE OF VEHICLES

403.3.1 VEHICLE ASSIGNMENTS

City vehicles may be assigned to individual employees at the discretion of the City Manager or the authorized designee. Vehicles may be assigned for partial or full workday use and/or take-home use. Vehicle assignments may be changed or suspended at any time. Permission to take home a vehicle may be withdrawn at any time.

Vehicle assignments shall be based on the employee's job description, essential functions, and employment status. Vehicles may be reassigned or utilized by other city employees at the discretion of the City Manager or the authorized designee.

The City Manager or the authorized designee is responsible for creating a vehicle assignment roster and for maintaining the rosters in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

403.3.2 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees operating a vehicle as part of their job with the City shall:

- (a) Possess a valid driver's license.
 - 1. Employees shall report any suspensions or revocations of their license and any changes to driving privileges as soon as practicable and before any subsequent city vehicle use or personal vehicle use for city business.
 - 2. Employees must possess a valid commercial driver's license or special class license when applicable.
- (b) Provide the city with a driver's history report upon request.
- (c) Possess appropriate insurance as required for personal vehicles used for city business.

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Vehicle Use

1. Employees shall notify a supervisor if their automobile insurance has been canceled, declined, or not renewed.
 2. The private insurance of employees using their personal vehicles under this policy shall be considered the primary insurance for any accidents or damage.
- (d) Notify a supervisor of any citations or arrests for motor vehicle-related violations or offenses as soon as practicable.
- (e) Obey all traffic laws.
- (f) Maintain any personal vehicles used for city business in safe working order.

403.3.3 INSPECTIONS

Employees shall be responsible for inspecting the interior and exterior of any assigned city vehicle. If the vehicle is assigned for the workday, it should be inspected before use and at the conclusion of the workday. If the vehicle is assigned for less than a workday, it should be inspected before use and upon conclusion of use. Any previously unreported damage, mechanical problems, unauthorized contents, or other problems with the vehicle shall be promptly reported to a supervisor and documented as appropriate.

All city vehicles are subject to inspection and/or search at any time by a supervisor without notice and without cause. No employee assigned to or operating such vehicle shall be entitled to any expectation of privacy with respect to the vehicle or its contents.

403.3.4 SECURITY AND UNATTENDED VEHICLES

Unattended vehicles should be locked and secured at all times to safeguard any city equipment prior to parking or leaving the vehicle.

403.3.5 VEHICLE LOCATION SYSTEM

City vehicles, at the discretion of the City Manager, may be equipped with a system designed to track the vehicle's location. While the system may provide vehicle location and other information, employees are not relieved of their responsibility to use any required communication practices to report their location and status.

Employees shall not make any unauthorized modifications to the system. If an employee finds that the system is not functioning properly at any time, the employee should notify a supervisor as soon as reasonably practicable.

System data may be accessed by supervisors at any time. However, access to historical data by other than supervisors will require City Manager approval.

All data captured by the system shall be retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

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Vehicle Use

403.3.6 KEYS

Employees who are assigned a specific vehicle should be issued keys for that vehicle. Employees shall not duplicate keys or share them with any person except another employee authorized to use that vehicle. The loss of a key shall be promptly reported in writing to the employee's supervisor.

403.3.7 AUTHORIZED PASSENGERS

Employees operating assigned vehicles shall not permit unauthorized persons to ride as passengers in the vehicle. Authorization must come from the City Manager.

403.3.8 PARKING

Employees should obey parking regulations at all times.

City vehicles should be parked in assigned spaces. Employees shall not park personal vehicles in spaces assigned to city vehicles or in other parking areas that are not so designated unless authorized by a supervisor.

403.3.9 ACCESSORIES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS

There shall be no modifications, additions, or removal of any equipment or accessories from city vehicles without written permission from the City Manager or the authorized designee.

403.4 UNSCHEDULED TAKE-HOME USE

Employees may take home city vehicles only with prior approval of a supervisor and shall meet the following criteria:

- (a) The circumstances are unplanned and were created by the needs of the City.
- (b) Other reasonable transportation options are not available.
- (c) The employee lives within a reasonable distance (generally not to exceed a 30-mile drive) of the city limits.
- (d) Off street parking will be available at the employee's residence.
- (e) The vehicle will be locked when not attended.
- (f) All portable city equipment will be removed from the interior of the vehicle and properly secured in the residence when the vehicle is not attended, unless the vehicle is parked in a locked garage.

When such circumstances occur, these supervisors or the authorized designee shall document the unscheduled take-home use in the vehicle assignment roster.

403.5 ASSIGNMENT OF TAKE-HOME VEHICLES

Assignment of take-home vehicles should be based on the location of the employee's residence, the nature of the employee's job, whether the employee performs work outside of regular business hours, the employee's employment status, and available resources.

Employees are cautioned that under federal and local tax rules, personal use of a city vehicle may create an income tax liability for the employee. Questions regarding tax rules should be directed to the employee's tax adviser.

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Vehicle Use

Travel to and from the home will not be considered work time unless the employee is responding to and from an emergency as part of the employee's duties.

403.5.1 TAKE-HOME VEHICLE AGREEMENT

Employees shall sign a take-home vehicle agreement that outlines how the vehicle shall be used, where it shall be parked, vehicle maintenance responsibilities, and any other appropriate requirements. The agreement should minimally provide that:

- (a) Vehicles shall only be used for work-related purposes and shall not be used for personal reasons, unless special circumstances exist and the City Manager or the authorized designee gives prior authorization.
- (b) Vehicles are to be parked off-street at the employee's residence unless prior arrangements have been made with the City Manager or the authorized designee. If the vehicle is not secured inside a locked garage, all removeable city equipment shall be removed and properly secured in the residence.
- (c) Vehicles are to be secured at the employee's residence or the appropriate city facility, at the discretion of the employee's supervisor, when an employee will be away (e.g., on vacation) for periods exceeding one week.

1.

403.6 DAMAGE, ABUSE, AND MISUSE

When any city vehicle is involved in a traffic accident or otherwise incurs damage, the involved employee shall promptly notify a supervisor. Any traffic accident report shall be filed with the agency having jurisdiction, with a copy provided to the City Manager or the authorized designee.

Damage to any city vehicle that was not caused by a traffic accident shall be immediately reported during the shift or workday in which the damage was discovered and documented in memorandum format, which shall be forwarded to the City Manager or the authorized designee. An administrative investigation should be initiated to determine if there has been any vehicle abuse or misuse.

403.7 TOLL ROAD USAGE, FUEL, AND MILEAGE

Employees operating vehicles for city business shall pay the appropriate toll charge or utilize the appropriate tollway transponder.

With the exception of take-home vehicles driven to and from the employee's residence, employees may submit for reimbursement from the City for toll fees and fuel expenses incurred in the course of official business. In lieu of fuel expenses, employees may submit for reimbursement for mileage accrued on personal vehicles used for city business.

Vehicle Safety Belts

404.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of safety belts. This policy will apply to all employees operating or riding in city vehicles.

Individual department policies may provide additional guidance.

404.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Child restraint system - An infant or child passenger restraint system that meets Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) and regulations set forth in 49 CFR 571.213.

404.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City that employees use safety restraint systems to reduce the possibility of death or injury in a motor vehicle accident.

404.3 WEARING OF SAFETY RESTRAINTS

All employees shall wear properly adjusted safety restraints at all times when operating or riding in a seat equipped with restraints, in any vehicle owned, leased, or rented by this city, or in any privately owned vehicle when conducting city business. The employee driving such a vehicle shall ensure that all other occupants, including those who are not employees of the City, are properly restrained.

404.4 TRANSPORTING CHILDREN

Child passengers will not be authorized except in police vehicles in an emergency situation.

404.5 INOPERABLE SAFETY BELTS

City vehicles shall not be operated when the safety belt in the driver's position is inoperable. Persons shall not be transported in a seat in which the safety belt is inoperable.

City vehicle safety belts shall not be modified, removed, deactivated, or altered in any way, except by the vehicle maintenance and repair staff, who shall do so only with the express authorization of the City Manager or the authorized designee.

Employees who discover an inoperable restraint system shall report the defect to the appropriate supervisor. Prompt action will be taken to replace or repair the system.

404.6 VEHICLE AIRBAGS

In all vehicles equipped with airbag restraint systems, the system will not be tampered with or deactivated, except when transporting children as written elsewhere in this policy. All equipment installed in vehicles equipped with airbags will be installed as per the vehicle manufacturer specifications to avoid the danger of interfering with the effective deployment of the airbag device.

Personal Protective Equipment

405.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy addresses the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the City.

405.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Personal protective equipment (PPE) - Equipment that protects a person from serious workplace injuries or illnesses resulting from contact with chemical, radiological, physical, electrical, mechanical, or other workplace hazards.

405.2 POLICY

The City endeavors to protect employees by supplying certain PPE as provided in this policy.

405.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors are responsible for identifying and making available PPE appropriate for the work environment.

405.4 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees are required to use PPE pursuant to their training.

Employees are responsible for proper maintenance and storage of issued PPE. PPE should be stored in an appropriate location so that it is available when needed.

Any employee who identifies hazards in the workplace is encouraged to utilize the procedures in the Illness and Injury Prevention Policy to recommend new or improved PPE or additional needs for PPE.

405.5 EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT AND USE

PPE shall meet or exceed any applicable requirements. Federal or other nationally recognized standards should be used as a guide for the procurement, use, maintenance, and storage of the following safety-related equipment in the absence of other mandatory requirements:

- (a) Hearing protection (29 CFR 1910.95)
- (b) Eye protection (29 CFR 1910.133)
- (c) Respiratory protection (29 CFR 1910.134)
- (d) Head protection (29 CFR 1910.135)
- (e) Foot protection (29 CFR 1910.136)
- (f) Electrical protective equipment (29 CFR 1910.137)
- (g) Hand protection (29 CFR 1910.138)
- (h) Personal fall protection systems (29 CFR 1910.140)

Personal Protective Equipment

405.6 RECORDS

Supervisors are responsible for maintaining records of all:

- (a) PPE training.
- (b) PPE procurement and distribution.
- (c) Fit tests and medical evaluations related to respiratory protection equipment, when applicable. Medical evaluation questionnaires and any physical examination results related to respirator use shall be maintained in a separate confidential medical file.

The records shall be maintained in accordance with the city records retention schedule.

405.7 TRAINING

Employees should be trained in the hazards to which they may be potentially exposed during routine and emergency situations.

All employees should be trained in the proper use and maintenance of PPE issued to them, including when the use is appropriate; how to put on, remove, and adjust PPE; how to care for PPE; and the limitations of each device (29 CFR 1910.132).

Employees issued respiratory PPE should attend annual training on the proper use of respiratory protection devices (29 CFR 1910.134).

Chapter 5 - Records and Documents

Records Maintenance and Release

500.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance on the maintenance and release of city records. Protected information is separately covered in the Protected Information Policy.

500.2 POLICY

The City is committed to providing public access to records in a manner that is consistent with state public records laws.

500.3 CITY RECORDER

The City Manager shall designate a City Recorder. The responsibilities of the City Recorder include but are not limited to:

- (a) Managing the records management system for the City, including the retention, archiving, release, and destruction of city public records.
- (b) Maintaining and updating the city records retention schedule, including:
 - 1. Identifying the minimum length of time records must be kept.
 - 2. Identifying the city department responsible for the original record.
- (c) Establishing rules regarding the inspection and copying of public records as reasonably necessary for the protection of such records.
- (d) Identifying records or portions of records that are confidential under state or federal law and not open for inspection or copying.
- (e) Establishing rules regarding the processing of subpoenas for the production of records.
- (f) Ensuring the availability of a current schedule of fees for public records as allowed by law.
- (g) Preparing and making available to the public the records request process, to include the cost of inspecting or obtaining copies.

500.4 PROCESSING REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC RECORDS

Any employee who receives a request for any record shall route the request to the City Recorder or the authorized designee.

500.4.1 REQUESTS FOR RECORDS

The processing of requests for any record is subject to the following:

- (a) All requests should be made in writing or on a form supplied by the City.
- (b) Clarification may be sought if the request is unreasonably broad or unclear.
- (c) Inspection of records should be during regular business hours unless otherwise authorized by the City Recorder.

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Records Maintenance and Release

- (d) Records should be made available in a format readily accessible to the requester. Records may also be made available in a specific format requested and a fee charged for reasonable costs of any required processing.
- (e) Records should be provided or a denial provided to a requester within a reasonable period of time.
 - 1. If a delay in providing records is anticipated, the requester should be provided a written response with the reason for the delay and the anticipated date the records will be provided.
- (f) Fees should be charged as allowed by law and established by the City.
- (g) The City is not required to create records that do not exist.
- (h) When a record contains material with release restrictions and material that is not subject to release restrictions, the restricted material shall be redacted and the unrestricted material released.
 - 1. A copy of the redacted release should be maintained in the city file for proof of what was actually released and as a place to document the reasons for the redactions. If the record is audio or video, a copy of the redacted audio/video release should be maintained in the city-approved media storage system and a notation should be made in the file to document the release and the reasons for the redacted portions.

500.4.2 DENIALS

The denial of a request for records should be documented and include:

- (a) A description of the records requested.
- (b) The specific reasons for the denial.
- (c) The name, title, and signature of the City Recorder.
- (d) The procedure to appeal the denial.

500.5 RELEASE RESTRICTIONS

Examples of release restrictions include:

- (a) Any personal identifying information, including an individual's photograph; Social Security and driver identification numbers; name, address, and telephone number; and medical or disability information that is contained in any city record, except as authorized by the City, and only when such use or disclosure is permitted or required by law to carry out a legitimate government purpose.
- (b) Certain personnel information, including but not limited to an employee's residential address and telephone number, Social Security number, marital status, medical history, confidential recommendations for employment, and performance evaluation history.
- (c) Records pertaining to internal investigations and disciplinary matters, including but not limited to complaints and other records relating to allegations of discrimination,

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Records Maintenance and Release

harassment, or retaliation, until the investigation is complete or is made part of the official record of any hearing or court proceeding.

- (d) Certain 9-1-1 records.
- (e) Audio and video recordings obtained through use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement officers, except as provided by statute.
- (f) Certain concealed firearm license/permit information of an applicant.
- (g) Records concerning security plans, procedures, assessments, measures, or systems, and other records relating to the security of persons, structures, facilities, infrastructure, or information technology systems that could reasonably be expected to be detrimental to the public's safety or welfare.
- (h) Records pertaining to strategy or negotiations related to labor relations, employment contracts, or collective bargaining and related arbitration proceedings.
- (i) Drafts, notes, recommendations, or intra-governmental memorandums pertaining to the development of resolutions, regulations, statements of policy, management directives, ordinances, or amendments prepared by or for the City.
- (j) Records where disclosure would be detrimental to the best interests of the public.
- (k) Records pertaining to pending or potential litigation that are not records of any court.
- (l) Any other information that may be appropriately denied by federal or state law.

500.6 SUBPOENAS AND DISCOVERY REQUESTS

Any employee who receives a subpoena duces tecum or discovery request for records should promptly contact a supervisor and the City Manager for review and processing. While a subpoena duces tecum may ultimately be subject to compliance, it is not an order from the court that will automatically require the release of the requested information.

Generally, discovery requests and subpoenas should be referred to the Court Clerk

All questions regarding compliance with any subpoena duces tecum or discovery request should be promptly referred to the Court Clerk or legal counsel so that a timely response can be prepared.

500.7 RELEASED RECORDS TO BE MARKED

Each page of any written record released pursuant to this policy should be stamped in a colored ink or otherwise marked to indicate the city name and to whom the record was released.

Each audio/video recording released should include the city name and to whom the record was released.

500.8 SECURITY BREACHES

Employees who become aware that any city records system may have been breached should notify the City Recorder as soon as practicable.

The City Recorder shall ensure any required notice of the breach is given.

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Records Maintenance and Release

If the breach reasonably appears to have been made to protected information covered in the Protected Information Policy, the City Recorder should promptly notify the appropriate employee designated to oversee the security of protected information (see the Protected Information Policy).

500.9 EXPUNGEMENT

The Court Clerk shall review all court orders and other filings that pertain to the expungement or sealing of records for appropriate action. Once a record is expunged or sealed, employees shall respond to any inquiry as though the record did not exist.

500.10 TRAINING

Employees authorized to manage, release, or facilitate public access to city records should receive training that includes identification of material appropriate for release or public access and the city systems and procedures guiding such release and access.

Protected Information

501.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the access, transmission, release, and security of protected information by employees of the City. This policy addresses the protected information that is used in the day-to-day operation of the City and not the public records information covered in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

501.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Protected information - Any information or data that is collected, stored, or accessed by employees of the City and is subject to any access or release restrictions imposed by law, regulation, order, or use agreement. This includes all information contained in federal, state, or local databases that is not accessible to the public.

501.2 POLICY

Employees of the City will adhere to all applicable laws, orders, regulations, use agreements, and training related to the access, use, dissemination, and release of protected information.

501.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The City Manager should designate an employee of the City to coordinate the use of protected information, including:

- (a) Overseeing employee compliance with this policy and with requirements applicable to protected information.
- (b) Developing, disseminating, and maintaining procedures necessary to comply with any requirements for the access, use, dissemination, release, and security of protected information.
- (c) Developing procedures to ensure training and certification requirements are met.
- (d) Resolving specific questions that arise regarding authorized recipients of protected information.
- (e) Implementing security practices and procedures to comply with requirements applicable to protected information.

501.4 ACCESS TO PROTECTED INFORMATION

Protected information shall not be accessed in violation of any law, order, regulation, use agreement, city policy, or training. Only those employees who have completed applicable training and met any applicable requirements, such as a background check, may access protected information, and only when the employee has a legitimate work-related reason for such access.

Unauthorized access, including access for other than a legitimate work-related purpose, is prohibited.

Protected Information

501.5 RELEASE OR DISSEMINATION OF PROTECTED INFORMATION

Protected information may be released only to authorized recipients who have both a lawful right to know and need to know.

An employee who is asked to release protected information that should not be released should refer the requesting person to a supervisor or to the City Recorder for information regarding a formal request.

501.6 SECURITY OF PROTECTED INFORMATION

The City Manager should designate an employee of the City to oversee the security of protected information, including:

- (a) Developing and maintaining security practices, procedures, and training.
- (b) Maintaining compliance with any federal, state, and local requirements pertaining to the security of protected information.
- (c) Establishing procedures to provide for the preparation, prevention, detection, analysis, and containment of security incidents, including cyberattacks.
- (d) Tracking, documenting, and reporting all breach of security incidents to the City Manager and appropriate authorities.

501.6.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees accessing or receiving protected information shall ensure the information is not accessed or received by persons who are not authorized to access or receive it. This includes not leaving protected information, such as documents or computer databases, accessible to others when it is reasonably foreseeable that unauthorized access may occur (e.g., on an unattended table or desk, in or on an unattended vehicle, in an unlocked desk drawer or file cabinet, on an unattended computer terminal).

501.7 TRAINING

All employees authorized to access or release protected information shall complete a training program that complies with any protected information system requirements and identifies authorized access and use of protected information, as well as its proper handling and dissemination.

Personnel Records

502.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs maintenance and access to personnel records. Personnel records include any file maintained under an individual employee's name.

502.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to maintain personnel records and preserve the confidentiality of personnel records pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of this state.

502.3 PERSONNEL FILE

A personnel file shall be maintained as a record of a person's employment/appointment with this city. The personnel file should contain, at a minimum:

- (a) Personal data, including photographs, marital status, names of family members, educational and employment history, or similar information.
- (b) Election of employee benefits.
- (c) Personnel action reports reflecting assignments, promotions, and other changes in employment/appointment status.
- (d) Original performance evaluations.
- (e) Discipline records, including copies of sustained personnel complaints.
- (f) Adverse comments such as supervisor notes or memos may be retained in the city file after the employee has had the opportunity to read and initial the comment.
 - 1. Once an employee has had an opportunity to read and initial any adverse comment, the employee shall be given the opportunity to respond in writing to the adverse comment.
 - 2. Any employee response shall be attached to and retained with the original adverse comment.
 - 3. If an employee refuses to initial or sign an adverse comment, at least one supervisor should note the date and time of such refusal on the original comment. Such a refusal, however, shall not be deemed insubordination, nor shall it prohibit the entry of the adverse comment into the employee's file.
- (g) Commendations and awards.
- (h) Any other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

502.4 DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, OR AGENCY FILE

Department files may be separately maintained internally by an employee's supervisor for the purpose of completing timely performance evaluations. The file may contain supervisor comments, notes, notices to correct, and other materials that are intended to serve as a foundation for the completion of timely performance evaluations.

Personnel Records

502.5 MEDICAL FILE

A medical file shall be maintained separately from all other personnel records and shall contain all documents relating to the employee's medical condition and history, including but not limited to

- (a) Materials relating to a medical leave of absence, including leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).
- (b) Documents relating to workers' compensation claims or the receipt of short- or long-term disability benefits.
- (c) Fitness-for-duty examinations, psychological and physical examinations, follow-up inquiries, and related documents.
- (d) Medical release forms, doctor's slips, and attendance records that reveal an employee's medical condition.
- (e) Any other documents or materials that reveal the employee's medical history or medical condition, including past, present, or future anticipated mental, psychological, or physical limitations.

502.6 SECURITY

Personnel records should be maintained in a secured location and locked either in a cabinet or access-controlled room. Personnel records maintained in an electronic format should have adequate password protection.

Personnel records are subject to disclosure only as provided in this policy, the Records Maintenance and Release Policy, or according to applicable discovery procedures.

Nothing in this policy is intended to preclude review of personnel records by the City Manager or representatives of the City in connection with official business.

502.6.1 REQUESTS FOR DISCLOSURE

Any employee receiving a request for a personnel record shall promptly notify the City Recorder or other person charged with the maintenance of such records.

Upon receipt of any such request, the responsible person shall notify the affected employee as soon as practicable that such a request has been made.

The responsible person shall further ensure that an appropriate response to the request is made in a timely manner, consistent with applicable law. In many cases, this may require assistance of available legal counsel.

All requests for disclosure that result in access to an employee's personnel records shall be logged in the corresponding file.

502.7 EMPLOYEES' ACCESS TO THEIR PERSONNEL RECORDS

Employees may request access to their own personnel records during the normal business hours from the Human Resources Department. Items may not be removed from the personnel file.

Employees may be restricted from accessing files containing certain information (e.g., ongoing investigations to the extent that it could jeopardize or compromise the investigation).

Personnel Records

502.8 RETENTION AND PURGING

Personnel records shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule:

- (a) During the preparation of each employee's performance evaluation, all personnel complaints and disciplinary actions should be reviewed to determine the relevancy, if any, to progressive discipline, training, and career development.

Chapter 6 - Personnel

Recruitment and Selection

600.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides a framework for employee recruiting efforts and identifying job-related standards for the selection process. This policy supplements other city rules governing employment practices.

600.2 POLICY

In accordance with applicable federal, state, and local law, the City provides equal opportunities for applicants and employees, regardless of actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law. The City does not show partiality or grant any special status to any applicant, employee, or group of employees unless otherwise required by law.

The City will recruit and hire only those individuals who demonstrate a commitment to service and who possess the traits and characteristics that reflect personal integrity and high ethical standards.

600.3 RECRUITMENT

The City Manager should employ a comprehensive recruitment and selection strategy to recruit and select employees from a qualified and diverse pool of candidates.

The strategy should include:

- (a) Identification of racially and culturally diverse target markets.
- (b) Use of marketing strategies to target diverse applicant pools.
- (c) Expanded use of technology and maintenance of a strong internet presence. This may include an interactive city website and the use of city-managed social networking sites, if resources permit.
- (d) Expanded outreach through partnerships with media, community groups, local colleges, universities, and the military.
- (e) Posting and outreach within the City for internal candidates, when applicable and/or required.
- (f) Use of local, state, or national professional organizations (e.g., National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, American Society for Public Administration).

The City should avoid advertising, recruiting, and screening practices that tend to stereotype, focus on homogeneous applicant pools, or screen applicants in a discriminatory manner.

The City strives to facilitate and expedite the interview and selection process, and should periodically inform candidates of their status in the recruiting process.

600.4 SELECTION PROCESS

The City should actively strive to identify a diverse group of candidates who have in some manner distinguished themselves as being outstanding prospects. Minimally, the City should employ a

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comprehensive screening, background investigation, and selection process that assesses the candidates' aptitude for the position and includes review and verification of the following:

- (a) A comprehensive application for employment (including previous employment, references, current and prior addresses, education, and military record)
- (b) Driving record (if applicable to the position)
- (c) Reference checks
- (d) Employment eligibility, including U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Employment Eligibility Verification Form I-9 and acceptable identity and employment authorization documents. This required documentation should not be requested until a candidate is hired. This does not prohibit obtaining documents required for other purposes
- (e) Information obtained from public internet sites
- (f) Financial history consistent with the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) (15 USC § 1681 et seq.)
- (g) Local, state, and federal criminal history record checks
- (h) Medical and/or psychological examination, as applicable and legally permissible (may only be given after a conditional offer of employment)
- (i) Review board or selection committee assessment

600.4.1 VETERAN PREFERENCE

The City will provide any veteran preference required by law.

600.5 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

Every candidate shall undergo a background investigation to verify the candidate's application information and ability to perform duties relevant to the position.

600.5.1 NOTICES

Background investigators should ensure that investigations are conducted and notices provided in accordance with the requirements of the FCRA and applicable state law (15 USC § 1681d).

600.5.2 REVIEW OF SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

Due to the potential for accessing unsubstantiated, private, or protected information, the City should not require candidates to provide passwords, account information, or access to password-protected social media accounts.

The City should consider utilizing the services of an appropriately trained and experienced third party to conduct open source, internet-based searches and/or review information from social media sites to ensure that:

- (a) The legal rights of candidates are protected.
- (b) Material and information to be considered are verified, accurate, and validated.

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- (c) The City fully complies with applicable privacy protections and local, state, and federal law.

Regardless of whether a third party is used, the City Manager or the authorized designee should ensure that potentially impermissible information is not available to any person involved in the candidate selection process.

600.5.3 RECORDS RETENTION

The background report and all supporting documentation should be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

600.5.4 DOCUMENTING AND REPORTING

The background investigator should summarize the results of the background investigation in a report that includes sufficient information to allow the reviewing authority to decide whether to extend a conditional offer of employment. The report should not include any information that is prohibited from use, including that from social media sites, in making employment decisions. The report and all supporting documentation should be included in the candidate's background investigation file.

600.6 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

All candidates shall meet any minimum standards required by state and local law. Candidates will be evaluated based on merit, ability, competence, and experience, in accordance with the high standards of integrity and ethics valued by the City and the community.

Validated, job-related, and nondiscriminatory employment standards should be established and maintained for each job classification and should minimally identify the training, abilities, knowledge, and skills required to perform the position's essential duties in a satisfactory manner. Each standard should include performance indicators for candidate evaluation.

600.7 JOB DESCRIPTIONS

The City Manager or the authorized designee should maintain a current job description for each position in the City.

Discriminatory Harassment

601.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to prevent city employees from being subjected to discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment and retaliation. Nothing in this policy is intended to create a legal or employment right or duty that is not created by law.

601.2 POLICY

The City is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to creating and maintaining a work environment that is free of all forms of discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment and retaliation. The City will not tolerate discrimination against an employee in hiring, promotion, discharge, compensation, fringe benefits, and other privileges of employment. The City will take preventive and corrective action to address any behavior that violates this policy or the rights and privileges it is designed to protect.

The nondiscrimination policies of the City may be more comprehensive than state or federal law. Conduct that violates this policy may not violate state or federal law but still could subject an employee to discipline.

601.3 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

601.3.1 DISCRIMINATION

The City prohibits all forms of discrimination, including any employment-related action by an employee that adversely affects an applicant or employee and is based on actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law.

Discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, is verbal or physical conduct that demeans or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual based upon that individual's protected class. It has the effect of interfering with an individual's work performance or creating a hostile or abusive work environment.

Conduct that may, under certain circumstances, constitute discriminatory harassment can include making derogatory comments; making crude and offensive statements or remarks; making slurs or off-color jokes; stereotyping; engaging in threatening acts; making indecent gestures, pictures, cartoons, posters, or material; making inappropriate physical contact; or using written material or city equipment and/or systems to transmit or receive offensive material, statements, or pictures. Such conduct is contrary to city policy and to a work environment that is free of discrimination.

601.3.2 RETALIATION

Retaliation is treating a person differently or engaging in acts of reprisal or intimidation against the person because the person has engaged in protected activity, filed a charge of discrimination,

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participated in an investigation, or opposed a discriminatory practice. Retaliation will not be tolerated.

601.3.3 SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The City prohibits all forms of discrimination and discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment. It is unlawful to harass an applicant or an employee because of that person's sex.

Sexual harassment includes but is not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- (a) Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly as a term or condition of employment, position, or compensation.
- (b) Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct is used as the basis for any employment decisions affecting the employee.
- (c) Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an employee's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

601.3.4 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Discrimination and discriminatory harassment do not include actions that are in accordance with established rules, principles, or standards, including:

- (a) Acts or omission of acts based solely upon bona fide occupational qualifications under the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and any related state agency guidelines.
- (b) Bona fide requests or demands by a supervisor that an employee improve work quality or output, that the employee report to the job site on time, that the employee comply with City or department rules or regulations, or any other appropriate work-related communication between supervisor and employee.

601.4 RESPONSIBILITIES

This policy applies to all city employees, who shall follow the intent of these guidelines in a manner that reflects city policy, professional standards, and the best interest of the City and its mission.

Employees are encouraged to promptly report any discriminatory, retaliatory, or harassing conduct or known violations of this policy to a supervisor. Any employee who is not comfortable with reporting violations of this policy to an immediate supervisor may make the report to a higher-ranking supervisor or manager. Complaints may also be filed with the City Manager.

Any employee who believes, in good faith, that the employee has been discriminated against, harassed, or subjected to retaliation, or who has observed harassment, discrimination, or retaliation, is encouraged to promptly report such conduct in accordance with the procedures set forth in this policy.

Supervisors and managers receiving information regarding alleged violations of this policy shall determine if there is any basis for the allegation and shall proceed with a resolution as stated below.

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601.4.1 QUESTIONS OR CLARIFICATION

Employees with questions regarding what constitutes discrimination, sexual harassment, or retaliation are encouraged to contact a supervisor, a manager, or the City Manager for further information, direction, or clarification.

601.4.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of supervisors and managers shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Continually monitoring the work environment and striving to ensure that it is free from all types of unlawful discrimination, including harassment or retaliation.
- (b) Taking prompt, appropriate action within their work units to avoid and minimize the incidence of any form of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.
- (c) Ensuring that their subordinates understand their responsibilities under this policy.
- (d) Ensuring that employees who make complaints or who oppose any unlawful employment practices are protected from retaliation and that such matters are kept confidential to the extent possible.
- (e) Making a timely determination regarding the substance of any allegation based upon all available facts.
- (f) Notifying the City Manager in writing of the circumstances surrounding any reported allegations or observed acts of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation no later than the next business day.

601.4.3 SUPERVISOR'S ROLE

Supervisors and managers shall be aware of the following:

- (a) Behavior of supervisors and managers should represent the values of the City and professional standards.
- (b) False or mistaken accusations of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation can have negative effects on the careers of innocent employees.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent supervisors or managers from discharging supervisory or management responsibilities, such as determining assignments, evaluating or counseling employees, or issuing discipline in a manner that is consistent with established procedures.

601.5 INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS

Various methods of resolution exist. During the pendency of any such investigation, the supervisor of the involved employee should take prompt and reasonable steps to mitigate or eliminate any continuing abusive or hostile work environment. All complaints of discrimination, retaliation, or harassment should be fully documented and promptly and thoroughly investigated.

601.5.1 SUPERVISORY RESOLUTION

Employees who believe they are experiencing discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should be encouraged to inform the individual that the behavior is unwelcome, offensive, unprofessional,

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or inappropriate. However, if the employee feels uncomfortable or threatened or has difficulty expressing the employee's concern, or if this does not resolve the concern, assistance should be sought from a supervisor or manager who is a rank higher than the alleged transgressor.

601.5.2 FORMAL INVESTIGATION

If the complaint cannot be satisfactorily resolved through the supervisory resolution process, a formal investigation will be conducted.

The person assigned to investigate the complaint will have full authority to investigate all aspects of the complaint. Investigative authority includes access to records and the cooperation of any employees involved. No influence will be used to suppress any complaint and no employee will be subject to retaliation or reprisal for filing a complaint, encouraging others to file a complaint, or for offering testimony or evidence in any investigation.

Formal investigation of the complaint will be confidential to the extent possible and will include but is not limited to details of the specific incident, frequency and dates of occurrences, and names of any witnesses. Witnesses will be advised regarding the prohibition against retaliation, and that a disciplinary process, up to and including termination, may result if retaliation occurs.

Employees who believe they have been discriminated against, harassed, or retaliated against because of their protected status are encouraged to file a complaint with their immediate supervisor but may also file a complaint directly with the City Manager.

601.5.3 ALTERNATIVE COMPLAINT PROCESS

No provision of this policy shall be construed to prevent any employee from seeking legal redress outside the City. Employees who believe that they have been harassed, discriminated, or retaliated against are entitled to bring complaints of employment discrimination to federal, state, and/or local agencies responsible for investigating such allegations. Specific time limitations apply to the filing of such charges. Employees are advised that proceeding with complaints under the provisions of this policy does not in any way affect those filing requirements.

601.6 DOCUMENTATION OF COMPLAINTS

All complaints or allegations shall be thoroughly documented on the appropriate forms and in a manner designated by the City Manager. The outcome of all reports shall be:

- (a) Approved by the City Manager.
- (b) Maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

601.6.1 NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSITION

The complainant and/or victim will be notified in writing of the disposition of the investigation and the actions taken to remedy or address the circumstances giving rise to the complaint.

601.7 TRAINING

All new employees shall be provided with a copy of this policy as part of their orientation. The policy shall be reviewed with each new employee. The employee shall certify by signing the prescribed

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form that the employee has been advised of this policy, is aware of and understands its contents, and agrees to abide by its provisions during the employee's term with the City.

All employees shall receive annual training on the requirements of this policy and shall certify by signing the prescribed form that they have reviewed the policy, understand its contents, and agree that they will continue to abide by its provisions.

Grievances

602.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the city grievance system. The grievance system is intended to facilitate communication and to promptly and equitably address employee grievances in the workplace. All City of Fairview employees are at-will.

602.1.1 GRIEVANCE DEFINED

A grievance is a difference of opinion or dispute regarding the meaning, interpretation, or application of any of the following:

- This Policy Manual
- Rules and regulations governing personnel practices or working conditions
- Workplace issues that do not amount to misconduct such as fraud, waste, abuse of authority, gross mismanagement, or any inappropriate conduct or practices, including violations that may pose a threat to the health, safety, or well-being of members

Specifically outside the category of grievances are complaints related to allegations of discrimination or harassment subject to the Discriminatory Harassment Policy. Also outside the category of grievances are personnel complaints regarding any allegation of misconduct or improper job performance against any city employee that, if true, would constitute a violation of city policy or federal, state, or local law. Disciplinary actions, promotions, demotions, transfers or terminations are not grievable.

602.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to provide a just and equitable system for the prompt handling of employee grievances without discrimination, coercion, restraint, or retaliation against any employee who submits or is otherwise involved in a grievance.

602.3 PROCESS

Grievances may be brought by an individual employee or by an employee group representative. Employees may have representation during the grievance process.

Except as otherwise required under current employment agreements, if an employee wishes to initiate a grievance as defined above, that employee shall:

- (a) Attempt to resolve the issue through informal discussion with the employee's immediate supervisor.
- (b) If after a reasonable amount of time, generally seven days, the grievance cannot be settled by the immediate supervisor, the employee may request an interview with the head of the department.
- (c) If a successful resolution is not found with the head of the department, the employee may request a meeting with the City Manager.

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- (d) If the employee and the City Manager are unable to arrive at a mutual solution, the employee shall proceed as follows:
 - 1. Submit a written statement of the grievance to the City Manager and provide a copy to the employee's immediate supervisor.
 - 2. Include the following information in the written statement:
 - (a) The basis for the grievance.
 - (b) The allegation of any specific wrongful act and the harm done.
 - (c) The specific policies, rules, or regulations at issue.
 - (d) The remedy or goal being sought by the grievance.
- (e) The supervisor shall provide the employee with a signed acknowledgment of the grievance that shall include the date and time of receipt.
- (f) The City Manager should review the grievance and respond to the employee within 14 calendar days.
 - 1. The response will be in writing, and will affirm or deny the allegations.
 - 2. The response shall include any remedies, if appropriate.
 - 3. The decision of the City Manager is considered final.

602.4 GRIEVANCE RECORDS

At the conclusion of the grievance process, all documents pertaining to the process shall be forwarded to the City Manager or the authorized designee for inclusion in a secure file for all written grievances.

602.5 POLICY OR TRAINING IMPLICATIONS

If an employee who participates in the grievance review process identifies any issue that may warrant an immediate revision to this Policy Manual, a procedural change, or an immediate training need, the employee should promptly notify the City Manager in the memorandum.

602.6 GRIEVANCE AUDITS

The City Manager should designate an employee to perform an annual audit of all grievances filed the previous calendar year to evaluate whether any change in policy, procedure, or training may be appropriate to avoid future grievances. The evaluation should be documented in a confidential memorandum to the City Manager without including any identifying information about any individual grievance.

Anti-Retaliation

603.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy prohibits retaliation against employees who identify workplace issues, such as fraud, waste, abuse of authority, gross mismanagement, or any inappropriate conduct or practices, including violations that may pose a threat to the health, safety, or well-being of employees.

This policy does not prohibit actions taken for nondiscriminatory or non-retaliatory reasons, such as discipline for cause.

These guidelines are intended to supplement and not limit employees' access to other applicable remedies. Nothing in this policy shall diminish the rights or remedies of an employee pursuant to any applicable federal law, provision of the U.S. Constitution, state and local law, ordinance, or current employment agreement.

603.2 POLICY

The City has a zero tolerance for retaliation and is committed to taking reasonable steps to protect from retaliation employees who, in good faith, engage in permitted behavior or who report or participate in the reporting or investigation of workplace issues. All complaints of retaliation will be taken seriously and will be promptly and appropriately investigated.

603.3 RETALIATION PROHIBITED

No employee may retaliate against any person for engaging in lawful or otherwise permitted behavior; for opposing a practice believed to be unlawful, unethical, discriminatory, or retaliatory; for reporting or making a complaint under this policy; or for participating in any investigation related to a complaint under this or any other policy.

Retaliation includes any adverse action or conduct, including but not limited to:

- Refusing to hire or denying a promotion.
- Extending the probationary period.
- Unjustified reassignment of duties or change of work schedule.
- Real or implied threats or other forms of intimidation to dissuade the reporting of wrongdoing or filing of a complaint, or as a consequence of having reported or participated in protected activity.
- Taking unwarranted disciplinary action.
- Spreading rumors about the person filing the complaint or about the alleged wrongdoing.
- Shunning or unreasonably avoiding a person because the person has engaged in protected activity.

Anti-Retaliation

603.4 COMPLAINTS OF RETALIATION

Any employee who feels retaliated against in violation of this policy should promptly report the matter to any supervisor, or the City Manager or the authorized designee.

Employees shall act in good faith, not engage in unwarranted reporting of trivial or minor deviations or transgressions, and make reasonable efforts to verify facts before making any complaint in order to avoid baseless allegations. Employees shall not report or state an intention to report information or an allegation knowing it to be false or with willful or reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the information, or otherwise act in bad faith.

Investigations are generally more effective when the identity of the reporting employee is known, thereby allowing investigators to obtain additional information from the reporting employee. However, complaints may be made anonymously. All reasonable efforts shall be made to protect the reporting employee's identity. However, confidential information may be disclosed to the extent required by law or to the degree necessary to conduct an adequate investigation and make a determination regarding a complaint. In some situations, the investigative process may not be complete unless the source of the information and a statement by the employee are part of the investigative process.

603.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of supervisors include but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring complaints of retaliation are investigated.
- (b) Receiving all complaints in a fair and impartial manner.
- (c) Documenting the complaint and any steps taken to resolve the problem.
- (d) Acknowledging receipt of the complaint, notifying the City Manager or the authorized designee, and explaining to the employee how the complaint will be handled.
- (e) Taking appropriate and reasonable steps to mitigate any further violations of this policy.
- (f) Monitoring the work environment to ensure that any employee making a complaint is not subjected to further retaliation.
- (g) Periodic follow-up with the complainant to ensure that retaliation is not continuing.
- (h) Not interfering with or denying the right of an employee to make any complaint.
- (i) Taking reasonable steps to accommodate requests for assignment or schedule changes made by an employee who may be the target of retaliation if it would likely mitigate the potential for further violations of this policy.

603.6 COMPLAINT PROCESS

The City Manager should communicate to all supervisors the prohibition against retaliation.

Supervisors shall treat all complaints as serious matters and shall ensure that prompt actions take place, including but not limited to:

- (a) Communicating to all employees the prohibition against retaliation.

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- (b) The timely review of complaint investigations.
- (c) Remediation of any inappropriate conduct or condition and instituting measures to eliminate or minimize the likelihood of recurrence.
- (d) The timely communication of the outcome to the complainant.

603.7 WHISTLE-BLOWING

Employees who believe they have been the subject of retaliation for engaging in protected behaviors should promptly report it to a supervisor. Supervisors should refer the complaint to the City Manager or the authorized designee for investigation.

603.8 RECORDS RETENTION AND RELEASE

The City Recorder shall ensure that documentation of investigations is maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedules.

603.9 TRAINING

This policy should be reviewed with each new employee.

All employees should receive periodic refresher training on the requirements of this policy.

Drug- and Alcohol- Free Workplace

604.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear and uniform guidelines regarding drugs and alcohol in the workplace (41 USC § 8103).

604.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to provide a drug- and alcohol-free workplace for all employees.

604.3 GENERAL GUIDELINES

Alcohol and drug use in the workplace or on city time can endanger the health and safety of city employees and the public.

Employees who have consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage or taken any medication, or combination thereof, that would tend to adversely affect their mental or physical abilities shall not report for work. Affected employees shall notify an appropriate supervisor as soon as they are aware of an inability to report to work. If the employee is unable to make the notification, every effort should be made to have a representative contact the supervisor in a timely manner. If the employee is adversely affected while at work, the employee shall be immediately removed and released from work (see the Work Restrictions section in this policy).

604.3.1 USE OF MEDICATIONS

Employees should not use any medications that will impair their ability to safely and completely perform their work. Any employee who is medically required or has a need to take any such medication shall report that need to an immediate supervisor prior to commencing any work.

604.3.2 MEDICAL CANNABIS

Possession, use, or being under the influence of medical cannabis during work hours is prohibited and may lead to disciplinary action.

604.4 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees shall report for work in an appropriate mental and physical condition. Employees are prohibited from purchasing, manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing, or using controlled substances or alcohol on city premises or on city time (41 USC § 8103). The lawful possession or use of prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies is excluded from this prohibition.

Employees shall notify a supervisor immediately if they observe behavior or other evidence that they believe demonstrates that a fellow employee is impaired during work hours due to drug or alcohol use.

Employees are required to notify their immediate supervisors of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five days after such conviction (41 USC § 8103).

Drug- and Alcohol- Free Workplace

604.5 EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

There may be available a voluntary employee assistance program to assist those who wish to seek help for alcohol and drug problems (41 USC § 8103). Insurance coverage that provides treatment for drug and alcohol abuse also may be available. Employees should contact the City Manager or the authorized designee, their insurance providers, or the employee assistance program for additional information. It is the responsibility of each employee to seek assistance before alcohol or drug problems lead to performance problems.

604.6 WORK RESTRICTIONS

If an employee informs a supervisor of having consumed any alcohol, drug, or medication that could interfere with a safe and efficient job performance, the employee may be required to obtain clearance from a physician before continuing to work.

If the supervisor reasonably believes, based on objective facts, that an employee is impaired by the consumption of alcohol or other drugs, the supervisor shall prevent the employee from continuing work and shall ensure that the employee is safely transported away from the workplace.

604.7 SCREENING TESTS

A supervisor may require an employee to submit to a screening under any of the following circumstances:

- (a) The supervisor reasonably believes, based upon objective facts, that the employee is under the influence of alcohol or drugs that are impairing the employee's ability to perform work safely and efficiently.
- (b) The employee uses property owned or approved by the City in a manner that results in injury, death, or substantial property damage.
- (c) The employee drives a motor vehicle in the performance of the employee's work and becomes involved in an incident that results in bodily injury, death, or substantial damage to property.

604.7.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The supervisor shall prepare a written record documenting the specific facts that led to the decision to require the test, and shall inform the employee in writing of the following:

- (a) The test will be given to detect either alcohol or drugs, or both.
- (b) The result of the test is not admissible in any criminal proceeding against the employee.
- (c) The employee may refuse the test, but refusal may result in dismissal or other disciplinary action.

604.7.2 DISCIPLINE

An employee may be subject to disciplinary action if the employee

- (a) Fails or refuses to submit to a screening test.

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- (b) After taking a screening test that indicates the presence of a controlled substance, fails to provide proof, within 72 hours after being requested, of having taken the controlled substance as directed, pursuant to a current and lawful prescription issued in the employee's name.

604.8 COMPLIANCE WITH THE DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE ACT

No later than 30 days following notice of any drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace involving an employee, the City will take appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, and/or requiring the employee to satisfactorily participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program (41 USC § 8104).

604.9 CONFIDENTIALITY

The City recognizes the confidentiality and privacy due to its employees. Disclosure of any information relating to substance abuse treatment, except on a need-to-know basis, shall only be with the express written consent of the employee involved or pursuant to lawful process.

The written results of any screening tests and all documents generated by the employee assistance program are considered confidential medical records and shall be maintained in the employee's confidential medical file in accordance with the Personnel Records Policy.

Communicable Diseases

605.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidelines to assist in minimizing the risk of employees contracting and/or spreading communicable diseases.

605.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Communicable disease - A human disease caused by microorganisms that are present in and transmissible through human blood, bodily fluid, or tissue, or by breathing or coughing. These diseases commonly include but are not limited to hepatitis B virus (HBV), HIV, and tuberculosis.

Exposure - When an eye, the mouth, a mucous membrane, or non-intact skin comes into contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials, or when these substances are injected or infused under the skin; when an individual is exposed to a person who has a disease that can be passed through the air by talking, sneezing, or coughing (e.g., tuberculosis), or the individual is in an area that was occupied by such a person. Exposure only includes those instances that occur due to an employee's position with the City. (See the exposure control plan for further details to assist in identifying whether an exposure has occurred.)

605.2 POLICY

The City is committed to providing a safe work environment for its employees. Employees should be aware that they are ultimately responsible for their own health and safety.

605.3 SAFETY OFFICER

The Safety Officer is responsible for the development of an exposure control plan that includes:

- (a) Exposure prevention and decontamination procedures.
- (b) Procedures for when and how to obtain medical attention in the event of an exposure or suspected exposure.
- (c) The provision that city employees will have no-cost access to personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g., gloves, face masks, eye protection, pocket masks) that is appropriate for each employee's position and risk of exposure.
- (d) Identification of exposure risks and reasonable efforts to reduce additional exposure.
- (e) Compliance with all relevant laws or regulations related to communicable diseases which may include the following:
 1. Responding to requests and notifications regarding exposures covered under the Ryan White law (42 USC § 300ff-133; 42 USC § 300ff-136)
 2. Bloodborne pathogen precautions, including exposure determination, if required (29 CFR 1910.1030)

Communicable Diseases

The Safety Officer should also act as the liaison with the state occupational health and safety authority and may request voluntary compliance inspections. The Safety Officer should periodically review and update the exposure control plan and review implementation of the plan.

605.4 EXPOSURE PREVENTION AND MITIGATION

605.4.1 GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

All employees are expected to use good judgment and follow training and procedures related to mitigating the risks associated with communicable disease. This includes but is not limited to (29 CFR 1910.1030):

- (a) Stocking disposable gloves, antiseptic hand cleanser, CPR masks, or other specialized equipment in the work area or city vehicles, as applicable.
- (b) Wearing city-approved disposable gloves when contact with blood, other potentially infectious materials, mucous membranes, and non-intact skin can be reasonably anticipated.
- (c) Washing hands immediately or as soon as feasible after removal of gloves or other PPE.
- (d) Treating all human blood and bodily fluids/tissue as if it is known to be infectious for a communicable disease.
- (e) Using an appropriate barrier device when providing CPR.
- (f) Using a face mask or shield if it is reasonable to anticipate an exposure to an airborne transmissible disease.
- (g) Decontaminating non-disposable equipment (e.g., clothing, shoes, work equipment) as soon as possible if the equipment is a potential source of exposure.
 - 1. Clothing that has been contaminated by blood or other potentially infectious materials should be removed immediately or as soon as feasible and stored/decontaminated appropriately.
- (h) Handling all sharps and items that cut or puncture (e.g., needles, broken glass, razors, knives) cautiously and using puncture-resistant containers for their storage and/or transportation.
- (i) Avoiding eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics or lip balm, or handling contact lenses where there is a reasonable likelihood of exposure.
- (j) Disposing of biohazardous waste appropriately or labeling biohazardous material properly when it is stored.

605.4.2 IMMUNIZATIONS

Employees who could be exposed to HBV due to their positions may receive the HBV vaccine and any routine booster at no cost (29 CFR 1910.1030). Additional immunizations may also be required or provided.

605.5 POST EXPOSURE

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605.5.1 INITIAL POST-EXPOSURE STEPS

Employees who experience an exposure or suspected exposure shall (29 CFR 1910.1030):

- (a) Begin decontamination procedures immediately (e.g., wash hands and any other skin with soap and water, flush mucous membranes with water).
- (b) Obtain medical attention as appropriate.
- (c) Notify a supervisor as soon as practical.

605.5.2 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Supervisors should investigate every exposure or suspected exposure that occurs as soon as possible following the incident. Supervisors should document the following information (29 CFR 1910.1030):

- (a) Identification of the employee exposed
- (b) Date and time of incident
- (c) Location of incident
- (d) Potentially infectious materials involved and the source of exposure (e.g., identification of the person who may have been the source)
- (e) Work being done during exposure
- (f) How the incident occurred or was caused
- (g) PPE in use at the time of the incident
- (h) Actions taken post-event (e.g., clean-up, notifications)

Supervisors should advise their employees that disclosing the identity and/or infectious status of a source to the public or to anyone who is not involved in the follow-up process is prohibited. Supervisors should complete the incident documentation in conjunction with other reporting requirements that may apply (see the Work-Related Illness and Injury Reporting and Illness and Injury Prevention policies).

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605.5.3 MEDICAL CONSULTATION, EVALUATION, AND TREATMENT

City employees have the opportunity to have a confidential medical evaluation immediately after an exposure and follow-up evaluations as necessary.

The Safety Officer should request a written opinion/evaluation from the treating medical professional that contains only the following information (29 CFR 1910.1030):

- (a) Whether the employee has been informed of the results of the evaluation.
- (b) Whether the employee has been notified of any medical conditions resulting from exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials that require further evaluation or treatment.

No other information should be requested or accepted by the Safety Officer.

Communicable Diseases

605.5.4 COUNSELING

The City should provide the employee, and the employee's family if necessary, the opportunity for counseling and consultation regarding the exposure.

605.5.5 SOURCE TESTING

Testing a person for communicable diseases when that person was the source of an exposure should be done when it is desired by the exposed employee or when it is otherwise appropriate. Source testing is the responsibility of the Safety Officer. If the Safety Officer is unavailable to seek timely testing of the source, it is the responsibility of the exposed employee's supervisor to ensure testing is sought.

Source testing may be achieved by:

- (a) Obtaining consent from the individual.
- (b) Requesting assistance from local health authorities to obtain testing.
- (c) Acquiring a court order in accordance with state law.

Since there is the potential for overlap between the different manners in which source testing may occur, the Safety Officer is responsible for coordinating the testing to prevent unnecessary or duplicate testing.

The Safety Officer should seek the consent of the individual for testing and consult the City Manager to discuss other options when no statute exists for compelling the source of an exposure to undergo testing if the individual refuses.

605.6 CONFIDENTIALITY OF REPORTS

Medical information shall remain in confidential files and not be disclosed to anyone without the employee's written consent (except as required by law). Test results from persons who may have been the source of an exposure are to be kept confidential as well (29 CFR 1910.1030).

605.7 TRAINING

Training regarding communicable diseases should be provided to employees commensurate with the requirements of their position. The training (29 CFR 1910.1030):

- (a) Should be provided at the time of initial assignment to tasks where an occupational exposure may take place and at least annually after the initial training.
- (b) Should be provided whenever the employee is assigned new tasks or procedures affecting potential exposure to communicable disease.
- (c) Should provide guidance on what constitutes an exposure, what steps can be taken to avoid an exposure, and what steps should be taken if a suspected exposure occurs.

Smoking and Tobacco Use

606.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes limitations on smoking and the use of tobacco products by employees and others during work hours or while in city facilities or vehicles.

For the purpose of this policy, smoking and tobacco use includes but is not limited to any tobacco product, such as cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, tobacco pouches, and chewing tobacco, as well as any device that is intended to simulate smoking, such as an electronic cigarette or personal vaporizer.

606.2 POLICY

The City recognizes that smoking and tobacco use is a health risk and can be offensive to others. All forms of smoking and tobacco use also present an unprofessional image for the City and its employees. Therefore, all forms of smoking and tobacco use are prohibited by employees and visitors in all city facilities, buildings, and vehicles, and as is further outlined in this policy.

606.3 SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE

Smoking and tobacco use by employees are prohibited any time employees are in public view representing the City.

It is the responsibility of employees to ensure that no person under their supervision or control smokes or uses any tobacco product inside city facilities and vehicles.

No employee shall smoke or vape near any entrance, window, or other location where other persons may be subject to breathing smoke or vapor.

606.4 POSTING

Signs or other notices should be posted at appropriate locations to notify employees and the public where smoking and tobacco use is prohibited.

Meal Periods and Breaks

607.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidance regarding meal periods and breaks for employees.

607.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to provide meal periods and breaks to employees in accordance with the law and any employment agreements.

607.3 MEAL PERIODS

Employees shall take meal periods at times approved by their supervisors. The time spent for meal periods shall not exceed the authorized time allowed.

Emergency response employees shall remain on-duty subject to call during meal periods. All other employees are not on-duty during meal periods unless directed otherwise by a supervisor.

607.4 BREAKS

Breaks should be taken near the midpoint of each four-hour work period. Only one break should be taken during each four hours of work. No breaks should be taken during the first or last hour of an employee's shift unless approved by a supervisor.

Emergency response employees shall remain on-duty subject to call during breaks. All other employees are not on-duty during breaks unless directed otherwise by a supervisor.

Lactation Breaks

608.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide reasonable accommodations to employees desiring to express breast milk for the employee's infant child.

608.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to provide, in compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), reasonable break time and appropriate facilities to accommodate any nonexempt employee desiring to express breast milk for a nursing child for up to one year after the child's birth (29 USC § 218d).

608.3 LACTATION BREAK TIME

A rest period should be permitted each time the employee has the need to express breast milk (29 USC § 218d). In general, lactation breaks that cumulatively total 30 minutes or less during any four-hour work period or major portion of a four-hour work period would be considered reasonable. However, individual circumstances may require more or less time.

Lactation breaks, if feasible, should be taken at the same time as the employee's regularly scheduled rest or meal periods. While a reasonable effort will be made to provide additional time beyond authorized breaks, any such time exceeding regularly scheduled and paid break time will be unpaid.

Employees desiring to take a lactation break shall notify a supervisor prior to taking such a break. Such breaks may be reasonably delayed if they would seriously disrupt city operations.

Once a lactation break has been approved, the break should not be interrupted except for emergency or exigent circumstances.

608.4 PRIVATE LOCATION

The City will make reasonable efforts to accommodate employees with the use of an appropriate room or other location to express milk in private. Such room or place should be in proximity to the employee's work area and shall be other than a bathroom or toilet stall. The location must be shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public (29 USC § 218d).

Employees occupying such private areas shall either secure the door or otherwise make it clear to others that the area is occupied with a need for privacy. All other employees should avoid interrupting an employee during an authorized break, except to announce an emergency or other urgent circumstance.

Authorized lactation breaks for employees assigned to the field may be taken at the nearest appropriate private area.

608.5 STORAGE OF EXPRESSED MILK

Any employee storing expressed milk in any authorized refrigerated area shall clearly label it as such and shall remove it when the employee's workday ends.

Payroll Records

609.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides the guidelines for completing and submitting payroll records of city employees who are eligible for the payment of wages.

609.2 POLICY

The City maintains timely and accurate payroll records.

609.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees are responsible for the accurate completion and timely submission of their payroll records for the payment of wages.

Supervisors are responsible for approving the payroll records of employees under their supervision.

609.4 TIME REQUIREMENTS

Employees who are eligible for the payment of wages are paid on a scheduled, periodic basis, generally on the same day or date each period, with certain exceptions, such as holidays. Payroll records shall be completed and submitted as established by the city payroll procedures.

609.5 RECORDS

The City shall maintain accurate and timely payroll records as required by 29 CFR 516.2 for a minimum of three years (29 CFR 516.5).

Overtime Compensation

610.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines and procedures regarding overtime for employees, in conformance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) (29 USC § 201 et seq.).

610.1.1 FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT (FLSA)

Minimum Wage

In accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), no employee shall be paid less than the Federal minimum wage unless they are expressly exempt from the minimum wage requirement by FLSA regulations. Employees paid on an hourly rate basis are paid for all time actually worked.

Overtime

Only FLSA non-exempt personnel shall be compensated for overtime. The FLSA shall govern the overtime compensation of hourly, non-exempt, City employees. The FLSA defines overtime pay as one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay for all hours worked over the applicable overtime threshold. Generally, overtime work must be authorized by the City Manager and approved via Department Heads. FLSA exempt employees who work more than (40) actual hours in a 7 - day workweek, FLSA exempt sworn police personnel who work more than (171) hours in a 28-day work period, and FLSA exempt fire service personnel who work more than (212) hours in a 28-day work period are entitled to overtime payment on a cash basis.

Workweek

A workweek is a regular recurring period of 168 hours consisting of seven, consecutive 24-hour periods. The number of days that shall constitute a workweek for regular employment is typically five in total. Schedules may vary in departments as necessary for the operation of the City. The City may set workweeks that best meet its administrative and service provision needs.

Minimum Age

The FLSA requires that employees of state and cities be at least 16 years of age for most jobs and at least 18 years of age to work jobs declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor. Police Officers must be a minimum of 21 years of age.

610.2 POLICY

The City will compensate nonexempt employees who work authorized overtime either by payment of wages or by the accrual of compensatory time (29 CFR 553.22). Employees who are salary exempt from FLSA are not compensated for overtime worked.

Overtime Compensation

610.3 COMPENSATION

Payment of wages to nonexempt employees for overtime, or accrual of compensatory time in lieu of compensation for overtime worked, shall be at the rate of not less than one and one-half hours for each hour of employment for which overtime compensation is required (29 USC § 207(o)(1)).

Short periods of overtime worked at the end of the normal workday (e.g., less than one hour in duration) may be handled informally by an agreement between the supervisor and the employee. In such cases, the supervisor shall document the overtime worked and schedule a subsequent adjustment of work time within the same work period that the overtime was worked, rather than submit a request for overtime compensation (29 USC § 207(o)).

Exempt employees may be eligible for administrative leave, which may be granted at the discretion of the City Manager.

610.4 REQUESTS FOR OVERTIME COMPENSATION

610.4.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Generally, no employee is authorized to work overtime without the prior approval of a supervisor. If circumstances do not permit prior approval, approval shall be sought as soon as practicable during the overtime shift and in no case later than the end of the shift in which the overtime is worked.

Nonexempt employees shall:

- (a) Obtain written supervisory approval.
- (b) Record the actual time worked in an overtime status using the city-approved form or method. Informal notations on reports, logs, or other forms not approved for overtime recording are not acceptable.
- (c) Submit the request for overtime compensation pursuant to city payroll procedures.

610.4.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors shall:

- (a) Prior to authorizing an employee to work overtime, evaluate the need for the overtime.
 - 1. Supervisors should not authorize any request to work overtime if the overtime would not be an appropriate use of city resources.
- (b) Upon receipt of a request for overtime compensation, confirm that the overtime was authorized and then verify the actual time worked.
 - 1. Supervisors identifying any unauthorized overtime or discrepancy shall initiate an internal investigation.
- (c) After verifying and approving the overtime amount, promptly forward the request for compensation to the employee's department director for final approval.
 - 1. After the head of the department has authorized compensation, the request shall be submitted to the City Manager or the authorized designee as soon as practicable.

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Supervisors may not authorize or approve their own overtime.

Work-Related Illness and Injury Reporting

611.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance regarding timely reporting of work-related conditions such as a physical injury or an occupational illness.

611.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Work-related condition - Any significant medical or mental condition suspected to have been caused by an employee's service to the City. Any condition that would reasonably require some form of treatment should be considered significant.

611.2 POLICY

The City will address work-related conditions and will comply with applicable state workers' compensation requirements.

611.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

611.3.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees shall report work-related conditions as soon as practicable, but within 24 hours, to a supervisor, and seek medical care when appropriate.

611.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor learning of any work-related condition should:

- (a) Ensure the employee receives medical care as appropriate and make notification to the Safety Officer.
- (b) Determine whether the Illness and Injury Prevention Policy applies and take additional action as required.
- (c) Review the report for accuracy and determine whether the work-related condition is required to be reported to the state or workers' compensation entity and whether any additional action should be taken.
- (d) Forward the report to the City Manager and the Safety Officer to be maintained in the employee's confidential medical file.

611.4 OTHER ILLNESS OR INJURY

Work-related conditions that do not qualify for workers' compensation reporting shall be documented on the designated report of injury form, which shall be signed by a supervisor. A copy of the completed form shall be forwarded to the City Manager or the authorized designee.

Unless the injury is extremely minor, the affected employee shall sign the form indicating no desire for medical treatment. Signing the form does not preclude the employee's ability to later seek medical attention.

Work-Related Illness and Injury Reporting

611.5 WORKERS COMPENSATION LEAVE

An employee of the City of Fairview who suffers injury or illness as a result of a work-related accident or condition shall receive compensation during the period of illness or injury in accordance with the Tennessee Worker's Compensation Act.

Work Related Injuries Notification:

If you experience any injury on the job as a City employee, regardless of whether it seems minor; regardless of whether it needs medical attention, you must take the following steps:

- (a) Report the injury immediately to your supervisor and the City safety officer;
- (b) If the supervisor or safety officer is not available, report it to the Administrative office;
- (c) Should the injury occur after hours (weekdays) or on the weekends, report of the injury must be made as soon as practicable – immediately if possible – to the supervisor;
- (d) Failure to comply with this procedure may result in disciplinary action up to, and including, termination of employment.

Please note that your health insurance will not cover the cost of a work-related injury. Timely reporting is important for you and is required by law.

No compensation shall be paid by the City for the first seven (7) days of disability resulting from injury, excluding the day of injury. If AVAIL leave is accumulated, the employee may use it for this seven (7) day period only. If disability extends beyond the seven (7) day period, workers' compensation payment from the workers' compensation insurer will commence with the eighth day after the injury. Beginning on the eighth day, and for as long as worker's compensation benefits continue, no accumulated paid leave shall be used by the employee to supplement workers' compensation temporary disability pay. In the event the disability from injury exists for a period as long as fourteen (14) days, then the workers' compensation insurer will be retroactively paid beginning with the first day after injury through.

Employees on occupational disability leave due to an on-the-job injury will not be charged AVAIL leave during the period of convalescence. Employees shall continue to accrue AVAIL leave at their regular rate while on occupational disability or injury leave. The employee shall continue paying their portion of their insurance premiums normally deducted from their paycheck while on worker's compensation leave.

Unless required statutorily (i.e., leave that places no undue hardship on the City under ADA), workers' compensation leave shall not be extended beyond six (6) months.

Time Off for Medical Appointments. Any City employee with a workers'-compensation-related illness or injury who is on the job but seeing a medical provider for said illness/injury will not be required to use his/her accumulated AVAIL leave for medical appointments that are scheduled during the employee's regularly scheduled work hours. Medical providers and medical

Work-Related Illness and Injury Reporting

appointments shall include, but not necessarily be limited to specializing physicians, medical practitioners, chiropractors, occupational therapists, and providers from other medical fields, as prescribed by provisions of the TN Code, Title 50, Chapter 6.

611.6 SETTLEMENT OFFERS

When an employee experiences a work-related condition that is caused by another person and is subsequently contacted by that person, that person's agent, an insurance company, or an attorney and offered a settlement, the employee shall take no action other than to submit a written report of this contact to a supervisor as soon as possible.

Instituting Action for Damages for Off Duty Injury or Illness - Receiving Compensation from City: Members who are receiving compensation from the City for an injury or illness sustained off duty shall notify the City Manager and/or Safety Officer, in writing, of any intent to institute action for damages for such illness or injury.

Instituting Action for Damages or Receiving Compensation for Damages - Result of an Incident Occurring in the Line of Duty: No member shall institute any action for damages nor accept any compensation for damages as the result of an incident occurring in the line of duty without first notifying the City Manager and/or Safety Officer.

611.6.1 NO SETTLEMENT WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL

No less than 10 days prior to accepting and finalizing the settlement of any third-party claim arising out of or related to a work-related condition, the employee shall provide the City Manager or the authorized designee with written notice of the proposed terms of such settlement. In no case shall the employee accept a settlement without first providing written notice to the City Manager or the authorized designee. The purpose of such notice is to permit the City to determine whether the offered settlement will affect any claim the City may have regarding payment for damage to equipment or reimbursement for wages against the person who caused the work-related condition, and to protect the city's right of subrogation, while ensuring that the employee's right to receive compensation is not affected.

Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments

612.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures for providing temporary modified-duty assignments. This policy is not intended to affect the rights or benefits of employees under federal or state law, city rules, or applicable employment agreements. For example, nothing in this policy affects the obligation of the City to engage in a good faith, interactive process to consider reasonable accommodations for any employee with a temporary or permanent disability or limitation that is protected under federal or state law.

612.2 POLICY

Subject to operational and business considerations, the City may identify temporary modified-duty assignments for employees who have an injury or medical condition resulting in temporary work limitations or restrictions. A temporary assignment allows the employee to work, while providing the City with a productive employee during the temporary period.

612.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Priority consideration for temporary modified-duty assignments will be given to employees with work-related injuries or illnesses that are temporary in nature. Employees having disabilities covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or state law shall be treated equally, without regard to any preference for a work-related injury.

No position should be created or maintained as a temporary modified-duty assignment.

Temporary modified-duty assignments are a management prerogative and not an employee right. The availability of temporary modified-duty assignments will be determined on a case-by-case basis, consistent with the operational and business needs of the City. Temporary modified-duty assignments are subject to continuous reassessment, with consideration given to operational and business needs and the employee's ability to perform in a modified-duty assignment.

The City Manager or the authorized designee may restrict employees working in temporary modified-duty assignments from wearing a uniform, operating a city vehicle, or engaging in outside employment.

Temporary modified-duty assignments should generally not exceed a cumulative total of 1,040 hours in any one-year period.

Employees who refuse a temporary modified-duty assignment offer are permitted to use available approved leave, if eligible.

612.4 PROCESS

Employees may request a temporary modified-duty assignment for short-term injuries or illnesses.

Employees seeking a temporary modified-duty assignment should submit a written request to their immediate supervisors or the authorized designees. The request should, as applicable, include a certification from the treating medical professional containing:

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- (a) An assessment of the nature and probable duration of the illness or injury.
- (b) The prognosis for recovery.
- (c) The nature and scope of limitations and/or work restrictions.
- (d) A statement regarding any required workplace accommodations, mobility aids, or medical devices.
- (e) A statement that the employee can safely perform the duties of the temporary modified-duty assignment.

Supervisors will make a recommendation to the City Manager or the authorized designee regarding temporary modified-duty assignments that may be available based on the needs of the City and the limitations of the employee.

Requests for a temporary modified-duty assignment of 20 hours or less per week may be approved and facilitated by the supervisor, with notice to the City Manager or the authorized designee.

612.5 ACCOUNTABILITY

Written notification of assignments, work schedules, and any restrictions should be provided to employees assigned to temporary modified-duty assignments and their supervisors. Those assignments and schedules may be adjusted to accommodate city operations and the employee's medical appointments, as mutually agreed upon by the employee and the employee's supervisor.

612.5.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of employees assigned to temporary modified duty include but are not limited to:

- (a) Communicating and coordinating any required medical and physical therapy appointments in advance with their supervisors.
- (b) Promptly notifying their supervisors of any change in restrictions or limitations after each appointment with their treating medical professionals.
- (c) Communicating a status update to their supervisors no less than once every 30 days while assigned to temporary modified duty.
- (d) Submitting a written status report to the City Manager or the authorized designee that contains a status update and anticipated date of return to full duty when a temporary modified-duty assignment extends beyond 60 days.

612.5.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The employee's immediate supervisor should monitor and manage the work schedule of those assigned to temporary modified duty.

The responsibilities of supervisors include but are not limited to:

- (a) Periodically apprising the City Manager or the authorized designee of the status and performance of employees assigned to temporary modified duty.

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- (b) Notifying the City Manager or the authorized designee and ensuring that the required documentation facilitating the employee's return to full duty is received from the employee.
- (c) Ensuring that employees returning to full duty have completed any required training and certification.

612.6 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Prior to returning to full-duty status, employees shall be required to provide certification from their treating medical professionals stating that they are medically cleared to perform the essential functions of their jobs without restrictions or limitations.

The City may require a fitness-for-duty examination prior to returning an employee to full-duty status.

612.7 PREGNANCY

If an employee is temporarily unable to perform regular duties due to a pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition, the employee will be treated the same as any other temporarily disabled employee (42 USC § 2000e(k)). A pregnant employee shall not be involuntarily transferred to a temporary modified-duty assignment.

If notified by an employee regarding a limitation related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, the City should make reasonable efforts to provide an accommodation for the employee in accordance with federal law and any applicable state law (42 USC § 2000gg-1).

Nothing in this policy limits a pregnant employee's right to a temporary modified-duty assignment if required under state law.

612.7.1 NOTIFICATION

Pregnant employees should notify their immediate supervisors as soon as practicable and provide a statement from their medical providers identifying any pregnancy-related job restrictions or limitations. If at any point during the pregnancy it becomes necessary for the employee to take a leave of absence, such leave shall be granted in accordance with the city's personnel rules and regulations regarding family and medical care leave.

612.8 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES

Probationary employees who are assigned to a temporary modified-duty assignment may have their probation extended by a period of time equal to their assignment to temporary modified duty.

612.9 MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING

Employees assigned to temporary modified duty shall maintain all certification, training, and qualifications appropriate to both their regular and temporary duties, provided that the certification, training, or qualifications are not in conflict with any medical limitations or restrictions. Employees who are assigned to temporary modified duty shall inform their supervisors of any inability to maintain any certification, training, or qualifications.

Speech, Expression, and Social Networking

613.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is intended to address issues associated with the use of social networking sites, and provides guidelines for the regulation and balancing of employee speech and expression with the needs of the City.

This policy applies to all forms of communication, including but not limited to film, video, print media, public or private speech, and use of all internet services, including the web, email, file transfer, remote computer access, news services, social networking, social media, instant messaging, blogs, forums, video, and other file-sharing sites.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit or infringe upon any communication, speech, or expression that is protected under law. This includes speech and expression protected under state or federal constitutions as well as labor or other applicable laws. For example, this policy does not limit an employee from speaking as a private citizen, including acting as an authorized member of an employee group, about matters of public concern, such as misconduct or corruption.

Employees are encouraged to consult with their supervisors regarding any questions arising from the application or potential application of this policy.

613.2 POLICY

Employees of public entities occupy a trusted position in the community, and thus, their statements have the potential to contravene the policies and performance of the City. Due to the nature of the work and influence associated with local government employees, it is necessary that city personnel be subject to certain reasonable limitations on their speech and expression. To achieve its mission and efficiently provide service to the public, the City will carefully balance the individual employee's rights against the needs and interests of the City when exercising a reasonable degree of control over its employees' speech and expression.

613.3 PROHIBITED SPEECH, EXPRESSION, AND CONDUCT

Employees should demonstrate sound judgment in speech, expression, and conduct that relates to or affects the City. In order to meet the safety, performance, and public-trust needs of the City, the following are prohibited unless the speech is otherwise protected (e.g., an employee is speaking as a private citizen, including acting as an authorized member of an employee group, on a matter of public concern):

- (a) Speech or expression that is disruptive to the work environment, undermines authority, and is destructive to close working relationships.
- (b) Speech or expression made pursuant to an official duty that tends to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation, or professionalism of the City or its employees.
- (c) Knowingly or recklessly using false speech or expression that, while not made pursuant to an official duty, is significantly linked to, or related to, the City and tends

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to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation, or professionalism of the City or its employees. Examples may include:

1. Making a false accusation of wrongdoing without exercising reasonable caution to verify the truth of the matter.
 2. Intentionally misrepresenting on social media actions taken by the City that would damage the city's reputation.
- (d) Speech or expression of any form that could reasonably be foreseen as having a negative impact on the safety of city employees. Use or disclosure, through whatever means, of any information, photograph, video, or other recording obtained or accessible as a result of employment or appointment with the City for financial or personal gain, or any disclosure of such materials without the express authorization of the City Manager or the authorized designee.
- (e) Posting, transmitting, or disseminating any inappropriate photographs, video or audio recordings, likenesses or images of city logos, emblems, uniforms, badges, patches, marked vehicles, equipment, or other material that specifically identifies the City on any personal or social networking or other website or web page, without the express authorization of the City Manager or the authorized designee.

Employees must take reasonable and prompt action to remove any content, including content posted by others, that is in violation of this policy from any web page or website maintained by the employee (e.g., social or personal website).

613.3.1 UNAUTHORIZED ENDORSEMENTS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

While employees are not restricted from engaging in the following activities as private citizens or as authorized members of employee groups, employees may not represent the City or identify themselves in any way that could be reasonably perceived as representing the City in order to do any of the following, unless specifically authorized by the City Manager or the authorized designee:

- (a) Endorse, support, oppose, or contradict any political campaign or initiative.
- (b) Endorse, support, oppose, or contradict any social issue, cause, or religion.
- (c) Endorse, support, or oppose any product, service, company, or other commercial entity.
- (d) Appear in any commercial, social, or nonprofit publication; in any motion picture, film, video, or public broadcast; or on any website.

Additionally, when it can reasonably be construed that an employee, acting in an individual capacity or through an outside group or organization, including as an authorized member of an employee group, is affiliated with this city, the employee shall give a specific disclaiming statement that any such speech or expression is not representative of the City.

Employees retain their rights to vote as they choose, to support candidates of their choice, and to express their opinions as private citizens, including as authorized members of employee groups on political subjects and candidates at all times during non-work hours. However, employees may not use their official authority or influence to interfere with or affect the result of elections or

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nominations for office. Employees are also prohibited from directly or indirectly using their official authority to coerce, command, or advise another employee to pay, lend, or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency, or person for political purposes (5 USC § 1502).

613.4 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Employees forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to emails, texts, or anything published or maintained through file-sharing software or any internet site (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn) that is accessed, transmitted, received, or reviewed on any city technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

However, the City may not require an employee to disclose a personal username or password or to open a personal social website, except when legally permitted and relevant to the investigation of allegations of work-related misconduct.

613.5 CONSIDERATIONS

In determining whether to grant authorization of any speech or conduct that is prohibited under this policy, the factors that the City Manager or the authorized designee should consider include:

- (a) Whether the speech or conduct would negatively affect the efficiency of delivering public services.
- (b) Whether the speech or conduct would be contrary to the good order of the City or the efficiency or morale of its employees.
- (c) Whether the speech or conduct would reflect unfavorably upon the City.
- (d) Whether the speech or conduct would negatively affect the appearance of impartiality in the performance of the employee's duties.
- (e) Whether similar speech or conduct has been previously authorized.
- (f) Whether the speech or conduct may be protected and outweighs any interest of the City.

613.6 TRAINING

Subject to available resources, the City should provide training regarding the limitations on speech, expression, and use of social networking to all employees.

Workplace Violence

614.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to make clear that the City does not tolerate any direct or implied threats of violence or violent behavior in the workplace or any act or behavior that is or can be perceived as threatening, hostile, and/or violent.

614.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to provide and maintain a safe work environment for its employees, volunteers, and members of the public.

In responding to any violent behavior in the workplace, the City is committed to providing protection to all involved parties, including protection from future physical and/or mental harm and the protection of the legal rights of victims, witnesses, and those instigating the harm.

614.3 PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR

No employee shall engage in, encourage, or promote violent behavior toward any person while conducting city business or on city property.

No employee engaged in city business shall carry or possess weapons or explosives unless either:

- (a) Permitted by city policy.
- (b) State or local law prohibits the City from restricting the possession of the weapon or explosive.

614.4 REPORTING AND INVESTIGATING

614.4.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY

Employees who experience, observe, or have knowledge of prohibited behaviors and actions in the workplace have a responsibility to report the situation as soon as practicable to a supervisor, a manager, or a human resources representative and to the local police department, if a threat has been made or a crime has occurred.

614.4.2 SUPERVISOR AND MANAGER/ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon receipt of a report of potential or actual workplace violence, supervisors shall gather as much information as possible to assess and determine the severity and potential of the situation. If the report is found to be credible, the City Manager or the authorized designee shall be notified as soon as practicable and appropriate action taken.

Local law enforcement personnel shall be notified immediately of all threatening or violent behavior.

614.4.3 INVESTIGATION

The City Manager or the authorized designee will promptly, impartially, and with as much confidentiality as practicable coordinate the investigation of all reports of violent behavior.

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City employees are required to cooperate in any investigation. A timely resolution of each report should be reached and communicated to all parties involved as quickly as possible.

614.4.4 REPORTING NON-WORK-RELATED THREATENING OR VIOLENT BEHAVIOR

City employees who are victims of domestic violence or other threatening behavior outside of the workplace, or who believe they are potential victims of such behavior and fear it may enter the workplace, are encouraged to report the situation as soon as possible to their supervisors.

Supervisors receiving any such report shall contact the City Manager or the authorized designee as soon as practicable so that any appropriate safety measures or plans may be developed.

614.5 RETALIATION PROHIBITED

Any form of retaliation against an employee for making a report concerning violent behavior in the workplace is prohibited.

Any employee who becomes aware of any retaliation or threatened retaliation shall immediately notify a supervisor.

614.6 RESTRAINING ORDERS

Employees who obtain a restraining order listing their workplace, person, or the City property as a protected area must provide a copy of the restraining order to their immediate supervisor or the City Manager or the authorized designee. The City needs this information in order to provide a safe workplace.

614.7 FOLLOW-UP ACTION

Any employee reported to have exhibited violent or potentially violent behavior will be afforded all rights provided by law and applicable employment agreements before the City takes any disciplinary action.

Actions that may be taken when an employee has been found to have violated this policy include but are not limited to the following:

- Mandatory participation in counseling
- Placing the employee on paid administrative leave pending investigation into an alleged threat or act
- Corrective/disciplinary action up to and including termination
- Criminal arrest and prosecution
- Special procedures, such as job relocation or initiation of a court order

If, upon investigation, it is determined that an allegation is false or was made maliciously, the employee who provided the false information will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination, as well as possible criminal arrest and prosecution.

Workplace Violence

614.8 LEGAL ACTION

The City Manager or the authorized designee, in consultation with legal counsel, will determine if a temporary restraining order or injunction should be sought on behalf of the City to reduce future or threatened violent behavior in the workplace.

614.9 CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

At the completion of the investigation and a review of the incident, or in the case of a threat of violence, non-disciplinary corrective actions should be implemented or requested to ensure overall workplace safety. These actions may include but are not limited to:

- Placing the involved employee on administrative leave pending further review and determination of permanent action.
- Administrative leave would be unpaid in the case of a volunteer.
- Reassigning the employee to a different work location.
- Referring the employee to conflict resolution training sessions.
- Referring the employee to the employee assistance program (EAP).
- Modifying workstation designs and office traffic flow patterns.
- Requiring the employee to attend a fitness-for-duty evaluation.
- Developing specific workplace violence procedures for incident response, prevention, and corrective actions.

614.10 WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION

All city employees are responsible for assisting in the prevention of violence in the workplace.

The City will provide appropriate training to employees regarding workplace violence.

In the event a violent incident occurs in the workplace, the City Manager or the authorized designee is responsible for ensuring that all responsibilities have been met and actions carried out, as detailed in this policy, and shall review the results of any investigation and ensure appropriate action is taken. Information gathered during an investigation should be used for the continuous improvement of policies and procedures to prevent workplace violence.

Outside Employment

615.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for city employees who seek to engage in authorized outside employment.

615.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Outside employment - Duties or services performed by employees of the City for another employer, organization, or individual when wages, compensation, or other consideration for such duties or services is received. Outside employment also includes duties or services performed by those employees who are self-employed and receive compensation or other consideration for services, products, or benefits rendered.

615.2 POLICY

City employees shall obtain written approval from the City Manager or the authorized designee prior to engaging in any outside employment. Approval of outside employment shall be at the discretion of the City Manager or the authorized designee in accordance with the provisions of this policy. Failure to obtain prior written approval for outside employment, or engaging in outside employment that is prohibited by this policy, may lead to disciplinary action.

615.3 OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

615.3.1 REQUEST AND APPROVAL

Employees must submit a written request to engage in outside employment to their immediate supervisors. The request will then be forwarded to the City Manager or the authorized designee for consideration.

If approved, the employee will be provided with a written notification of approval. Unless otherwise indicated in writing, approval for outside employment will be valid through the end of the calendar year in which the request is approved. Employees seeking to continue outside employment must submit a new request at the start of each calendar year.

615.3.2 DENIAL

Any employee whose request for outside employment has been denied should be provided with a written notification of the reason at the time of the denial.

615.3.3 REVOCATION

Any employee whose approval for outside employment is revoked or suspended should be provided with a written notification of the reason for revocation or suspension.

Approval for outside employment may be revoked or suspended:

- (a) When a supervisor determines the employee's performance is failing to meet standards and the outside employment may be related to the deficient performance.

Outside Employment

1. Approval for the outside employment may be re-established when the employee's performance has reached a satisfactory level and with a supervisor's authorization.
- (b) When an employee's conduct or outside employment conflicts with city policy or any law.
- (c) When the outside employment creates an actual or apparent conflict of interest with the City.

615.3.4 APPEAL

If an employee's request for outside employment is denied or if previous approval is revoked or suspended, the employee may file a written notice of appeal with the City Manager or the authorized designee within 10 days of receiving notice of the denial, revocation, or suspension.

A revocation or suspension will only be implemented after the employee has completed the appeal process.

If the employee's appeal is denied, the employee may file a grievance as provided in the Grievances Policy.

615.4 REQUIREMENTS

615.4.1 PROHIBITED OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

The City reserves the right to deny any request for outside employment that involves:

- (a) The use of city time, facilities, equipment, or supplies.
- (b) The use of any city badge, uniform, or influence for private gain or advantage.
- (c) The employee's receipt or acceptance of any money or other consideration for the performance of duties or services required or expected of the employee in the normal course of employment or appointment.
- (d) The performance of duties or services that may later be subject directly or indirectly to the control, inspection, review, audit, or enforcement of any other employee of the City.
- (e) Demands upon the employee's time that would render the employee's work performance for the City deficient or substandard.
- (f) Activities that may conflict with any other policy or rule of the City.

615.4.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

Employees are prohibited from using any city equipment or resources in the course of, or for the benefit of, any outside employment. This shall include the prohibition against employees using their position with the City to gain access to official records or databases.

615.4.3 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

Unless prohibited by law under the circumstances, prior to approving outside employment, the City Manager or the authorized designee may request that an employee provide a copy of personal

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financial records for review if it is determined that a conflict of interest may exist. Failure or refusal by the employee to provide such records may result in denial of the outside employment.

If, after approving a request for outside employment, the City obtains information that a financial conflict of interest exists, the City Manager or the authorized designee may request that the employee provide a copy of personal financial records for review. Failure or refusal by the employee to provide such records may result in revocation or suspension of approval of the outside employment pursuant to this policy.

615.4.4 CHANGES IN OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Employees who terminate their outside employment shall promptly submit written notification of such termination to their immediate supervisor. Any subsequent request for renewal or continued outside employment must thereafter be processed and approved through the procedures set forth in this policy.

Employees shall also promptly submit in writing to their immediate supervisor any material changes in outside employment, including any change in the number of hours, type of work, or the demands of any approved outside employment. Employees who are uncertain whether a change in outside employment is material are advised to report the change.

615.4.5 LEAVE OR RESTRICTED DUTY STATUS

Employees who are placed on leave or other restricted duty status shall inform their immediate supervisors in writing within five days as to whether they intend to continue their outside employment while on such leave or restricted status. The immediate supervisor shall review the duties of the outside employment, along with any related orders (e.g., administrative, medical), and make a recommendation to the City Manager or the authorized designee regarding whether such employment should continue.

In the event that the City Manager or the authorized designee determines that the outside employment should be discontinued, or if the employee fails to promptly notify an immediate supervisor of the employee's intention regarding outside employment, a notice revoking approval of the outside employment will be forwarded to the employee and a copy attached to the original outside employment request.

Criteria for revoking approval due to leave or restricted duty status include but are not limited to:

- (a) The outside employment is medically detrimental to the total recovery of the employee.
- (b) The outside employment requires performance of the same or similar physical ability as would be required in the employee's city job.
- (c) The employee fails to give timely notice of intent regarding outside employment to an immediate supervisor.

When the employee returns to full duty with the City, a written request may be submitted to the City Manager or the authorized designee to approve the outside employment request.

Personal Appearance Standards

616.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the personal appearance of city employees.

Dress code requirements for uniformed and non-uniformed employees are addressed in the Dress Code Policy.

616.2 POLICY

City employees shall maintain their personal hygiene and appearance to project a professional image that is appropriate for public service and for the department in which they work. Personal appearance standards are primarily based on safety requirements, appearance conformity, and the social norms of the community served, while considering matters important to city employees.

616.3 GROOMING

The following appearance standards shall apply to all employees unless the employee's supervisor has granted an exception.

616.3.1 PERSONAL HYGIENE

All employees must maintain proper personal hygiene. Examples of improper personal hygiene include but are not limited to dirty fingernails, bad breath, body odor, and dirty or unkempt hair.

Employees should adhere to the following general guidelines in their personal appearance when presenting to work. Employees may be subject to additional personal hygiene standards set forth in supplemental policies established by each department.

- (a) Hair shall be neatly trimmed or arranged.
- (b) Facial hair (e.g., beards, sideburns, mustaches, eyebrows) must be clean and well-groomed. Facial hair for certain employees may be prohibited if it creates a safety hazard (i.e., facial hair for employees who regularly wear certain types of respirators).
- (c) Fingernails should be clean and neatly trimmed to a length that does not present a safety concern.

616.4 APPEARANCE

616.4.1 JEWELRY

For the purpose of this policy, jewelry refers to rings, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, wristwatches, and tie tacks or tie bars. Jewelry shall present a professional image and may not create a safety concern for the employee or others. Jewelry that depicts racial, sexual, discriminatory, gang-related, or obscene language is not allowed.

616.4.2 TATTOOS

At no time while an employee is representing the City in any official capacity shall any offensive tattoo or body art be visible. Examples of offensive tattoos include but are not limited to those that exhibit or advocate discrimination; those that exhibit gang, supremacist, or extremist group

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affiliation; and those that depict or promote drug use, sexually explicit acts, or other obscene material.

616.4.3 BODY PIERCING OR ALTERATION

Body piercing (other than earlobes) or alteration to any area of the body that is visible while representing the City in any official capacity, that is a deviation from normal anatomical features, and that is not medically required, is prohibited. Such body alteration includes but is not limited to:

- (a) Tongue splitting or piercing.
- (b) The complete or transdermal implantation of any material other than hair replacement (i.e., foreign objects inserted under the skin to create a design or pattern).
- (c) Abnormal shaping of the ears, eyes, nose, or teeth (i.e., enlarged or stretched out holes in the earlobes).
- (d) Branding, scarification, or burning to create a design or pattern.

616.4.4 DENTAL ORNAMENTATION

Dental ornamentation that is for decorative purposes and that is not medically required is prohibited while representing the City in any official capacity. Such ornamentation includes but is not limited to:

- (a) Objects that are bonded to front teeth.
- (b) Gold, platinum, or other veneers or caps used for decorative purposes.

616.4.5 GLASSES AND CONTACT LENSES

Eyeglasses and sunglasses shall present a professional image. Contact lenses with designs that change the normal appearance of the eye and that are not medically required are prohibited during work hours and while representing the City in any official capacity.

616.4.6 COSMETICS AND FRAGRANCES

Cosmetics shall present a professional image. Use of cologne, perfume, aftershave lotion, and other items used for body fragrance shall be kept to a minimum.

616.5 EXEMPTIONS

City employees may request exemptions from portions of this policy when application would affect a disability, a religious practice or belief, or other protected characteristics. Requests for exemptions should be addressed to the City Manager or the authorized designee. The City Manager should be advised any time a request for accommodation is denied.

Dress Code

617.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides dress code guidelines for city employees.

Other related topics are addressed in the Local Government-Owned and Personal Property and Personal Appearance Standards policies.

617.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City that uniformed employees are readily identifiable to the public through the proper use and wearing of city uniforms and that the appearance of all employees is suitable and appropriate for their position.

617.3 WORK ATTIRE FOR NON-UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES

Non-uniformed employees shall dress in a manner appropriate for their position and any department-specific standards. The following guidelines apply to all non-uniformed employees:

- (a) Clothing shall fit properly, be clean and free of stains, and not be damaged or excessively worn.
- (b) Employees assigned primarily to an office environment, including management, administrative, and support positions, shall wear business-appropriate attire.
- (c) Variations from this policy are allowed at the discretion of the employee's immediate supervisor or the head of the department based upon the employee's assigned job duties.
- (d) No item of civilian attire that would adversely affect the reputation of the City or employee morale may be worn during work hours.
- (e) The following items shall not be worn during work hours or when representing the City in any official capacity:
 - 1. Clothing that reveals cleavage, the back, chest, stomach, or buttocks
 - 2. Mini-skirts
 - 3. T-shirt alone or exposed undergarments
 - 4. Swimsuits, tank tops, tube tops, or halter tops
 - 5. Sweatshirts, sweatpants, or similar exercise clothing
 - 6. Spandex-type pants or transparent clothing
 - 7. Denim pants of any color, except when expressly authorized
 - 8. Shorts
 - 9. Clothing, buttons, or pins displaying racial, sexual, discriminatory, gang-related, or obscene language

Dress Code

617.4 UNIFORMS

The City will provide uniforms for all employees who are required to wear them in the manner, quantity, and frequency agreed upon in the respective employee group's employment agreement, if applicable. The City may provide other employees with uniforms at the direction of the City Manager.

The City Manager or the authorized designee shall maintain and update uniform and equipment specifications, which should be consulted by employees as needed. Uniforms shall be worn as described therein and as specified in this policy and any supplemental department policies.

The following shall apply to those employees assigned to wear city-issued uniforms:

- (a) Uniforms and equipment shall be maintained in a serviceable condition and shall be ready at all times for immediate use. Uniforms shall be neat, clean, and appear professionally pressed, as necessary for the position.
- (b) Uniforms shall be worn in compliance with any applicable city specifications.
- (c) Uniforms are only to be worn during work hours, at official city functions or events, while in transit to or from work, or when authorized by the City Manager or the authorized designee.
- (d) Employees are not to purchase or drink alcoholic beverages while wearing any part of city-issued uniforms.
- (e) Supervisors shall monitor employee compliance with this policy through periodic inspections of employees within their department who wear a city-issued uniform.

All uniforms and equipment issued to city employees shall be returned to the City upon termination or resignation.

617.5 UNAUTHORIZED UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT, AND ACCESSORIES

City employees may not wear any uniform item, accessory, or attachment unless specifically authorized by the City Manager or the authorized designee.

Employees may not use or carry any safety item, tool, or other piece of equipment unless specifically authorized by the City Manager or the authorized designee.

Family and Medical Leave

618.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide general guidance for managing unpaid leave for eligible employees for qualified medical and family reasons, including (29 USC § 2612):

- The birth, adoption, or foster care placement of a child.
- To care for an immediate family member (spouse, child, or parent) with a serious health condition.
- When an employee is unable to work because of the employee's own serious health condition.
- To care for a spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin who is a service member of the United States Armed Forces and who has a serious injury or illness incurred in the line of duty.

This policy does not address all possible situations and circumstances that may arise when an employee requests leave for family or medical reasons. As these leave situations arise, supervisors should consult with the City Manager or authorized designee to obtain specific guidance regarding leave rights and obligations.

Nothing in this policy supersedes any provision of any employment agreement, civil service or other local rule, or any law that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

618.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Child - A child under 18 years of age, or 18 years of age or older who is incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability (29 USC § 2611; 29 CFR 825.102; 29 CFR 825.122). An employee's child is one for whom the employee has actual day-to-day responsibility for care and includes a biological, adopted, or foster child; stepchild; or a child for whom the employee is standing in loco parentis (in place of a parent).

FMLA - The federal Family and Medical Leave Act (29 USC § 2601 et seq.).

Qualified health care professional - A physician, surgeon, doctor of osteopathy, podiatrist, dentist, psychologist, optometrist, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, clinical social worker, or physician assistant duly licensed and authorized to practice medicine; chiropractors for some purposes; any health care provider from whom the city benefits plan will accept certification of the existence of a serious health condition to substantiate a claim for benefits (29 CFR 825.125).

Spouse - The person with whom an employee has entered into a marriage defined or recognized by the location in which the marriage was entered into (29 USC § 2611(13); 29 CFR 825.102; 29 CFR 825.122).

Family and Medical Leave

618.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the City to manage unpaid leave for eligible employees for qualified medical and family reasons in compliance with federal law and any applicable employment agreement.

618.3 ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES

Employees are eligible for FMLA after working for the City for at least one year and completing 1,250 hours over the 12 months prior to the commencement of the leave (29 USC § 2611; 29 CFR 825.110). Employees may not be eligible for leave if there are fewer than 50 other employees within 75 miles of the employee's work site.

People who are not covered include elected officials, volunteers, independent contractors, and legal advisors.

618.4 TYPE AND DURATION OF LEAVE

Generally, eligible employees are entitled under FMLA to 12 workweeks of unpaid leave during a 12-month period (29 USC § 2612; 29 CFR 825.100). Up to 26 weeks of unpaid leave during a single 12-month period may be available to care for certain injured military service members. The 12-month period is measured backward from the date leave is taken and continuously with each additional leave day taken.

618.4.1 SERIOUS HEALTH CONDITIONS

Eligible employees may take up to 12 weeks of leave to care for a spouse, child, or parent with a serious health condition or when the employee is unable to work because of the employee's own serious health condition (29 USC § 2612(a)(1); 29 CFR 825.200).

If both spouses are employed by the City, the combined number of workweeks to care for a sick parent is limited to 12 workweeks during any 12-month period (29 USC § 2612(f); 29 CFR 825.201).

Generally, a serious health condition is an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves (29 USC § 2611; 29 CFR 825.113):

- An overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility (29 CFR 825.114).
- Continuing treatment by a qualified health care professional due to a serious health condition of more than three full consecutive calendar days (29 CFR 825.115(a)).
- Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy complications or prenatal care (29 CFR 825.115(b)).
- A chronic condition that requires treatment (29 CFR 825.115(c)).
- A permanent condition for which treatment may not be effective (such as Alzheimer's or the terminal stages of a disease) (29 CFR 825.115(d)).
- Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments, including any recovery period, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar

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days without medical intervention or treatment (such as cancer chemotherapy or physical therapy for arthritis) (29 CFR 825.115(e)).

618.4.2 BIRTH OR PLACEMENT OF A CHILD

Eligible employees may take up to 12 weeks of leave for the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of a child of the employee (29 USC § 2612; 29 CFR 825.200). The leave must be concluded within one year of the birth or placement of the child (29 CFR 825.120; 29 CFR 825.121).

If both parents are employed by the City, the combined number of workweeks of leave is limited to 12 workweeks during any 12-month period (29 USC § 2612(f); 29 CFR 825.120; 29 CFR 825.121).

618.4.3 MILITARY EXIGENCY LEAVE

Eligible employees may take service member leave of up to 12 weeks for qualifying exigencies occurring because a spouse, child, or parent is on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending order to active duty (29 USC § 2612(a)(1)(E); 29 CFR 825.200). This type of leave is available to a family member of a person in the National Guard, Reserves, or members of the regular Armed Forces deployed to a foreign country. Qualifying exigencies include (29 CFR 825.126):

- Addressing issues that arise from a short notice (seven or less days) deployment.
- Attending military events related to the active duty or call to duty.
- Attending family support or assistance programs.
- Making child care or educational arrangements or attending school activities arising from active duty or a call to active duty.
- Making financial and legal arrangements.
- Spending time with a military member who is on short-term rest-and-recuperation leave during a period of deployment.
- Attending post-deployment activities.
- Addressing issues that arise from the death of a military member, such as making funeral arrangements.
- Caring for a military member's parent who is incapable of self-care, such as providing care on an immediate-need basis or arranging for alternative care.

618.4.4 MILITARY CAREGIVER LEAVE

Eligible employees may take up to 26 weeks of leave in a single 12-month period to care for a spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin who has incurred an injury or illness in the line of duty while on active duty in the Armed Forces, provided that such injury or illness may render the family member medically unfit to perform work (29 USC § 2612; 29 CFR 825.200).

Military caregiver leave is also available to family members of covered veterans who were members of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves, at any point in the five

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years preceding the date on which the veteran undergoes medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy (29 USC § 2612; 29 CFR 825.127).

During the single 12-month period, employees are entitled to no more than a combined total of 26 weeks of FMLA leave. In any case in which both spouses are employed by the City, the combined number of workweeks of leave is limited to 26 workweeks during any 12-month period (29 USC § 2612(f); 29 CFR 825.127).

Service member FMLA leave runs concurrent with other leave entitlements provided under federal, state, and local law. Where FMLA leave qualifies as both military caregiver leave and care for a family member with a serious health condition, the leave will be designated as military caregiver leave first.

618.4.5 INTERMITTENT LEAVE

An employee may take leave for the employee's own serious health condition, for the serious health condition of the employee's spouse, child, or parent, or to care for a covered service member with a serious injury or illness, intermittently or on a reduced schedule if medically necessary, and if that medical need can best be accommodated by an intermittent schedule as defined in federal law (29 USC § 2612(b); 29 CFR 825.202; 29 CFR 825.124).

Leave due to a military exigency may be taken on an intermittent or reduced leave schedule (29 CFR 825.202).

Intermittent leave for the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of a child is only available if granted at the discretion of the City Manager, unless the employee has a serious health condition in connection with the birth or if the newborn child has a serious health condition (29 CFR 825.120; 29 CFR 825.121).

Intermittent leave for any employee shall be tracked and calculated.

618.4.6 PREGNANCY DISABILITY LEAVE

Pregnant employees who are disabled by pregnancy (not eligible for a modified duty assignment) may be entitled to a disability leave, or a leave of absence, in addition to any FMLA leave. The duration of leave is dependent on the circumstances. The City Manager shall defer to a pregnant employee's qualified health care professional in assessing the employee's ability to work.

618.5 EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS WHILE ON LEAVE

While on leave, employees will continue to be covered by any group health insurance to the same extent that coverage is provided while the employee is on the job (29 USC § 2614(c); 29 CFR 825.209). However, employees will not continue to be covered under non-health benefit plans.

Employees are responsible for any health plan employee contributions while on leave (29 CFR 825.210). Employee contribution rates are subject to any change in rates that occurs while the employee is on leave. If an employee fails to return to work after the leave entitlement has been exhausted or expires, the City may recover its share of health plan premiums for the entire leave period unless the employee does not return because of the continuation, recurrence, or onset of

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a serious health condition of the employee or the employee's family member that would entitle the employee to leave, or because of circumstances beyond the employee's control (29 CFR 825.213). The City may recover premiums through deduction from any sums (e.g., unpaid wages, vacation pay).

Employees may not earn additional time off while on unpaid leave.

618.6 SUBSTITUTION OF PAID ACCRUED LEAVES

Subject to applicable employment agreements and civil service rules, employees are required to exhaust all applicable paid accrued leave before taking unpaid leave. Paid accrued leave includes vacation leave, sick leave, personal leave, and compensatory time earned in lieu of overtime, pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, during FMLA leave. Employees may not use paid accrued leave to extend FMLA leave beyond 12 workweeks per year.

618.7 USE OF FMLA LEAVE

If an employee takes a leave of absence for any reason that is FMLA qualifying, the City may designate that non-FMLA leave as running concurrently with the employee's 12-week FMLA leave entitlement.

618.7.1 EFFECTS ON AVAIL LEAVE ACCRUAL

Approved leave will be unpaid if the employee does not have paid leave available at the time FMLA starts or when all available paid leave is exhausted while out on leave.

When an employee's unpaid leave time is greater than 80% of their assigned shifts or more during any pay period while on FMLA, no AVAIL accrues. The combination of compensatory time, AVAIL leave, and unpaid leave may not exceed the total allowable leave under the FMLA, except as required by statute.

618.8 PROCEDURES

The following procedures will apply for all employees requesting leave under FMLA:

- (a) When a leave is requested for a medical or other FMLA-related treatment appointment, the employee must make a reasonable effort to schedule the appointment at a time that minimizes disruption to city operations (29 USC § 2612; 29 CFR 825.302).
- (b) An employee who wishes to take FMLA leave must provide the employee's supervisor with 30 days' advanced notice when the leave is foreseeable or as soon as practicable if the need for leave is not foreseeable (29 USC § 2612; 29 CFR 825.302; 29 CFR 825.303).
- (c) At the time of the request, the employee must complete an FMLA request form.

Requests for medical leave shall be accompanied by a qualified health care professional statement, including the date on which the serious health condition began and the estimated date of return to work (29 USC § 2613; 29 CFR 825.302).

Once the leave is requested or designated by the City, the supervisor should forward the request and any medical certifications to the City Manager or the authorized designee and ensure the

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employee is provided the necessary forms and FMLA information and required notices within five business days (29 CFR 825.300).

Employees are required to provide medical certification of a qualified health care professional or military documentation, if requested (29 CFR 825.305; 29 CFR 825.308; 29 CFR 825.309; 29 CFR 825.310).

Employees shall be required to periodically report on their status and intent to return to work (29 USC § 2614; 29 CFR 825.311). This may assist in avoiding a delay in reinstatement when the employee is ready to return to work.

Employees returning from a medical leave for the employee's own serious health condition will be required to present medical verification from a qualified health care professional of the employee's ability to return to work and a list of any restrictions that need to be accommodated (29 USC § 2614; 29 CFR 825.100; 29 CFR 825.312).

618.9 REINSTATEMENT FOLLOWING LEAVE

Generally, employees returning from FMLA leave within the qualified period will be restored to their original job or to an equivalent job with equivalent pay and benefits (but not seniority), unless the employee would not otherwise have been employed at the time reinstatement is requested (e.g., in the case of a layoff) (29 USC § 2614; 29 CFR 825.214; 29 CFR 825.216).

If the same position is no longer available, such as in a layoff, the employee will be entitled to a position that is comparable in pay, job content, and promotional opportunities and geographic location, if such a comparable position exists.

If upon return from leave an employee is unable to perform the essential functions of the job because of a physical or mental disability, the supervisor should work with the City Manager or the authorized designee to engage in an interactive process with the employee to identify a potential reasonable accommodation.

After exhausting paid FMLA leave, non-paid leave will continue until the conclusion of the protected 12- or 26-week time limit. Following the protected leave, the City Manager or the authorized designee in consultation with the legal counsel will determine whether non-FMLA leave should apply.

618.10 RESPONSIBILITY

The responsibilities of the City Manager or the authorized designee include but are not limited to (29 CFR 825.108; 29 CFR 825.110; 29 CFR 825.112; 29 CFR 825.300; 29 CFR 825.301):

- (a) Attempting to determine whether an employee absence of four or more days may qualify as FMLA leave.
- (b) Determining if an employee is eligible for FMLA leave.
- (c) Determining if leave is for an FMLA-qualifying reason.
- (d) Granting or denying a request for FMLA leave and providing designation notice to the employee within five business days of designation.

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- (e) Providing eligibility notice to the employee within five business days of the request for FMLA leave or when acquiring knowledge that an employee's leave may be for FMLA.
 - 1. If the employee is not eligible for FMLA leave, the notice must state at least one reason why the employee is not eligible.
- (f) Providing a written rights and responsibilities notice each time the eligibility notice is provided to an employee.

The City Manager or the authorized designee should work with legal counsel regarding questions relating to leave or reinstatement from leave under this policy.

618.10.1 STATE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE CONSIDERATIONS

The City will comply with the requirements of any applicable state-specific laws providing for family and medical leave. The City Manager or the authorized designee is also responsible for establishing a process for implementing applicable family and medical leave requirements, including consideration of whether an employee is eligible for paid family or medical leave under state law, if applicable.

618.11 RECORDS

The City will maintain leave-related records as required by 29 CFR 825.500 for at least three years and in compliance with the city's established records retention schedule.

Records and documents related to doctor certifications and other medical information created for purposes of complying with FMLA and this policy shall be maintained as confidential medical records in separate files from employee personnel files.

618.12 NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

The City Manager or the authorized designee should ensure that a notice explaining the FMLA's provisions and procedures is prominently posted in conspicuous places in the City where it can be readily seen by all employees and applicants for employment. Electronic posting is sufficient as long as the other posting requirements have been met as provided by 29 CFR 825.300 (29 CFR 825.300).

Leave Policy

619.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidance regarding the use of Available Vacation and Illness leave (AVAIL), which is a benefit for full-time employees. This policy is not intended to cover all types of leave. For example, employees may be entitled to additional paid or unpaid leave for certain family and medical reasons as addressed in the Family and Medical Leave Policy.

619.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the city to provide eligible employees with AVAIL.

619.3 USE OF AVAIL

AVAIL is intended to be used for qualified absences. Abuse of AVAIL may result in discipline, denial of leave benefits, or both.

Employees on AVAIL shall not engage in other employment or self-employment (see the Outside Employment Policy).

Qualified appointments should be scheduled during an employee's non-working hours when it is reasonable to do so.

619.3.1 NOTIFICATION

The City will try to honor all AVAIL requests; however, vacations cannot interfere with the City's operation. Therefore, AVAIL when used for vacation purposes must be approved by City Department Heads or authorized designee, in advance on a first come, first-served basis. If any conflicts arise in vacation requests, preference will be given to the employee with the longest length of continuous service to the city.

Vacations will be scheduled in advance for the mutual convenience of the employee and the City so proper adjustments can be made in the work schedules. No employee may begin his/her leave until his/her request has been approved. Service in the Tennessee National Guard, Military Reserves, State Guard, or Civil Air Patrol may be charged as Military Leave.

In cases of illness or injury, all employees should notify the appropriate supervisor as soon as they are aware that they will not be able to report to work and no less than one hour before the start of their scheduled shifts. If, due to an emergency, an employee is unable to contact the supervisor, every effort should be made to have a representative for the employee contact the supervisor.

When the necessity to be absent from work is foreseeable, such as planned medical appointments or treatments, the employee shall, whenever possible and practicable, provide the City with no less than 10 days' notice of impending absence.

Upon return to work, employees are responsible for ensuring their time off was appropriately accounted for, and for completing and submitting the required documentation

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619.3.2 AVAIL TIME CALCULATIONS AND PAYOUT

Employees must work 80% of their shifts in each pay period to accrue AVAIL. AVAIL time will be calculated according to the following schedule:

Years of Service	8-Hour Employee Accrual Per Pay Period	24 Hour Employee Accrual Per Pay Period
1-4	8.00	10.50
5-9	9.00	11.75
10-19	10.00	13.00
20+	11.50	15.00

AVAIL pay-out at termination of employment: Upon voluntary separation from employment with appropriate notice, employees will be paid out unused AVAIL leave as follows:

- Leave may not be used during the period of notice;
- Notice requirements may be waived by department directors, and for department directors by the City Manager;
- 8 – hour employee cash-out limit is 280 hours at time of separation;
- 24 – hour employee cash-out limit is 365 hours upon separation.
- Any remaining AVAIL will be converted to sick time and submitted to TCRS for retirement credit

A break in service of 6 months or more will reset the AVAIL leave accrual calculation, with the exception of USERRA break in service.

619.4 EXTENDED ABSENCE

Employees absent from work for more than three consecutive days may be required to furnish a statement from a health care provider or verification supporting the need to be absent and/or the ability to return to work. Employees on an extended absence shall, if possible, contact their supervisor at specified intervals to provide an update on their absence and expected date of return.

Nothing in this section precludes a supervisor from requiring, with cause, a health care provider's statement for an absence of three or fewer days.

619.5 LEAVE WITHOUT PAY

Leave without pay is defined as time off from regular work which may be granted without pay at the recommendation of the employee's department head. Leave without pay may only be authorized by the City Manager unless provided for statutorily.

Leave without pay may only be granted after an employee exhausts all applicable paid leave, and for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days for good and sufficient reasons which are considered uncontrollable.

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There is no job protection entitlement associated with a leave without pay except where statutorily mandated. Such leaves of absence may be granted to regular, ongoing full-time employees in instances where unusual or unavoidable circumstances require a prolonged absence and all applicable unpaid and paid-time-off options are unavailable or have been exhausted.

- The City reserves the right to limit the number of leaves granted an employee unless statutorily mandated.
- The employee on leave without pay will not receive holiday pay.

An employee who utilizes leave time to actively pursue other employment or who accepts any employment or goes into business while on leave of absence shall be considered to have resigned from their employment and will be terminated as of the day the other employment began.

619.6 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of supervisors include but are not limited to:

- (a) Monitoring and regularly reviewing the attendance of employees to ensure that the use of AVAIL and absences is consistent with this policy.
- (b) Attempting to determine whether an absence of four or more days may qualify as family medical leave and consulting with legal counsel or the City Manager as appropriate.
- (c) Addressing absences and AVAIL use in the employee's performance evaluation when excessive or unusual use has:
 1. Negatively affected the employee's performance or ability to complete assigned tasks.
 2. Negatively affected city operations.
- (d) When appropriate, counseling employees regarding excessive absences and/or inappropriate use of AVAIL.
- (e) Referring eligible employees to an available employee assistance program when appropriate.

619.7 ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

An employee may be placed on administrative leave with or without pay upon approval of the City Manager, or approved designee.

619.7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE WITH PAY

An employee may be placed on administrative leave with pay from his/her specific job duties or temporarily reassigned. A copy of the temporary removal/reassignment notification and related documentation shall be forwarded to the Administrative office for inclusion in the employee's file.

619.7.2 ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE WITHOUT PAY

When an employee is unable to effectively perform the duties of his/her position due to an ongoing investigation, the employee may be temporarily placed on administrative leave without pay pending the outcome of the investigation when it is in the best interest of the City. In the event

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the employee is determined eligible to return to his/her duty at the conclusion of the investigation, the employee will be restored with backpay for hours missed.

619.8 BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

Full-time employees may take a maximum of (24) hours of bereavement leave in conjunction with services, assisting in family matters, or memorials per relative for the following family members:

- (a) Children
- (b) Spouse/Partner
- (c) Parents
- (d) Mother-in-law
- (e) Father-in-law
- (f) Stepparent
- (g) Stepchildren
- (h) Grandfather
- (i) Grandmother
- (j) Brother
- (k) Brother-in-law
- (l) Sister
- (m) Sister-in-law
- (n) Grandchildren
- (o) Daughter-in-law
- (p) Son-in-law
- (q) Legal Guardian/Foster Child or Parent

Full-time employees may take a maximum of (8) hours of bereavement leave in conjunction with services, assisting in family matters, or memorials per relative not listed above.

The City reserves the right to request verification for bereavement leave use.

Should more than the allotted amount of leave be necessary after the bereavement period employees may seek approval from the City Manager, or designee, to use available AVAIL leave in addition to the bereavement leave. Notice must be given to the supervisor and the amount of AVAIL leave to be used and must be approved prior to the additional time being taken. Bereavement Leave may be used non-consecutively as approved.

619.9 MILITARY LEAVE

Any employee who is or becomes a member of the armed forces of the United States (including the Army, Army Reserves, Army National Guard, Navy, Naval Reserve, Marine Corps, Marine Corps Reserve, Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, Coast Guard, Coast Guard

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Reserve, Commissioned Corps of the Public Health) and leaves work for initial training for the Guard or Reserves, leaves work to join active-duty military, or is called to active duty, will be placed on military leave. Such employee must present his/her supervisor or department head with advance notice of the active-duty orders. The employee's seniority, status and pay rate will remain unchanged during his/her time of military leave. Continued health insurance coverage will be offered up to 24 months, with the employee paying premiums due for such policy. For the first 31 days of military leave, the City will maintain contribution at the same level as was done prior to leave. An employee wishing to continue health insurance coverage during his/her military leave shall provide a mailing address where notices of premium payments due may be sent. When an employee's unpaid leave time is greater than 80% of their assigned shifts or more during any pay period, no AVAIL leave accrues.

The process for reinstatement of employees returning from military leave begins when the employee submits an "application for re-employment." Said application must be submitted within ninety (90) days of the end of service, or from the end of hospitalization continuing after discharge for a period of not more than one (1) year for an injury/illness related to deployment.

The returning employee will be re-employed in the position they would have attained had they not been absent for military service, with the same seniority, status and pay.

619.10 GUARD/RESERVIST LEAVE

Any employee who is member or may become a member of any reserve component of the armed forces of the United States or of the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard will be entitled to a leave of absence from their respective duties for periods of military service during which they are engaged in the performance of duty or training in the service of this state, or of the United States, under competent orders. While on such leave, the employee will be granted paid leave up to twenty (20) days in any one (1) calendar year.

Qualified employees who seek paid leave under this policy must provide the official order calling for their service or training to their supervisor. Employees serving in the National Guard or Military Reserve will receive full compensation for a period of twenty (20) days of military leave each calendar year, excluding holidays and scheduled off days. Such leave will not be charged to any form of accrued paid leave. An employee requesting military leave shall provide the City the dates for training and travel time in advance. After the twenty (20) working days of full compensation, members of any reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, including members of the Tennessee army and air national guard, may use AVAIL for any additional working days.

619.11 ACTIVE STATE DUTY: TN STATE GUARD, CIVIL AIR PATROL

In addition to the leave of absence provided above, employees who are members of the Tennessee army and air national guard on active state duty or the Tennessee state guard and civil air patrol shall be entitled to an unpaid leave of absence from their respective duties, without loss of time, pay not specifically related to leave of absence time, regular leave or AVAIL accrual,

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or impairment of efficiency rating for all periods of service during which under competent orders he/she is engaged in the performance of duty or training in the service of this state, including the performance of duties in an emergency.

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 42-7-102, members of the United States air force auxiliary civil air patrol who participate in a training program for the civil air patrol, or in emergency and disaster services, as defined in T.C.A. § 58-2-101, are entitled to a leave of absence with pay for a period of not more than fifteen (15) days during a calendar year for such purposes if the leave of absence is at the request of the employee's wing commander or the wing commander's designated representative. Employees granted leave are entitled to their regular salary during the time that they are away from their regular duties. All the rights and benefits of the employee continue as if a leave of absence had not been granted. It is the responsibility of the employee to make arrangements with their department head for leave to attend monthly meetings on regular off time, with the expectation that the paid leave granted herein will be applied to the annual training periods required for reservists.

619.12 CITY OBSERVED HOLIDAYS

All offices of the City of Fairview, except emergency and necessary operations, will be closed and employees excused from work on the holidays listed below:

Holiday	Date Observed
New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday	3rd Monday in January
Presidents Day	3rd Monday in February
Good Friday	Friday Before Easter
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Juneteenth	June 19th
Day before Independence Day	July 3rd
Independence Day	July 4th
Labor Day	1st Monday in September
Veterans Day	November 11th
Thanksgiving	4th Thursday in November
Day after Thanksgiving	4th Friday in November
Christmas Eve	December 24th
Christmas Day	December 25th

Travel Expense Policy

620.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines for submission and reimbursement of city travel-related expenses. This policy applies to all employees and elected officials who incur travel expenses on behalf of the City.

620.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Travel expenses - Eligible expenses for travel, lodging, meals, and registration fees associated with participation in approved training programs, conventions, seminars, memorials, and other events that relate to an employee's or elected official's responsibilities, training, and/or education, or that serve a direct city purpose.

620.2 POLICY

The City of Fairview endeavors to pre-pay work-related travel expenses whenever possible. When pre-payment is not possible, it is the policy of the City to reimburse employees and elected officials for reasonable and necessary travel expenses.

620.3 DEPARTMENT HEADS

Each Department Head will be responsible for:

- (a) Detailed processes for submitting pre-approvals and travel reimbursement requests.
- (b) Reviewing and maintaining necessary forms and documentation.
- (c) Periodic audits to review compliance with this policy.

620.4 EXPENSE GUIDELINES

620.4.1 TRANSPORTATION

All travel should be by the most cost-effective means possible, considering distance, location, and type. The following forms of travel should be considered:

- (a) City vehicle
 - 1. Use of city vehicle is preferred when practicable. Arrangements for using city vehicles should be made in advance through the Department Head to avoid scheduling conflicts.
 - 2. The traveling employee should also request the use of a City gasoline card.
 - 3. If a City gasoline card is not available when using a city vehicle, the fuel, tolls, and reasonable parking expenses (e.g., valet should not be used unless there is no other option) will be reimbursed if actual receipts are submitted.
- (b) Private Vehicle
 - 1. The use of a private vehicle for travel to programs, meetings or other official business is discouraged except in those cases when a City owned vehicle is

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unavailable due to need and use by other department personnel. In cases where private vehicle use is necessary, the City will reimburse the owner of the vehicle at the mileage rate allowed by the States Travel Rates from origin to destination of business and return by the most expeditious and direct route, plus necessary and appropriate mileage at the destination of business.

2. In no event shall reimbursement for use of a private vehicle, meals, and lodging while in transit to and from destination exceed the cost of economy class airfare.
3. Other costs associated with using private vehicles such as tolls, parking fees and other expenses must be documented with receipts for reimbursement.
4. Employees will not be reimbursed for any fines for traffic violations, parking tickets and costs incurred because of accidents, including the cost of repairs or breakdowns on the road.

(c) Use of Rental Cars

1. The cost of a rental car may be assumed by the City when justified by economic advantage, the unavailability of timely and direct public transportation, or urgencies due to time schedules. Reimbursement will be based upon the customary and usual rates for a mid-size or smaller car in the locality. Receipts for the cost of a rental car must accompany the request for reimbursement.

(d) Air Travel

1. The City will pay for economy class air transportation when it is determined that the distance involved, as well as the travel time away from City duties and location of the destination make air transportation the best choice. Unless circumstances prevent advance registrations, employees should make airline reservations at least 21 days in advance of their expected travel date in order to achieve the maximum available discount. Copies of the airline ticket receipt and boarding passes must be attached to the travel expense report.

620.4.2 ACCOMMODATIONS

Travel over 50 miles from the City of Fairview typically requires the employee stay overnight. The employee or elected official should arrange lodging and request approval from the City Manager or the authorized designee before departure.

Lodging should be at or near the event at standard rates. Employees or elected officials should make all reasonable efforts to get the best rates possible, including researching whether government rates are available and whether tax-exempt certificates are accepted or assignments of rights to refund are provided. Employees or elected officials are expected to take reasonable steps to provide or obtain the forms for tax exemption, when applicable, and submit the forms to the City in a timely manner.

620.4.3 MEALS

Employees or elected officials traveling on city business will receive per diem at the government rate.

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620.4.4 PROHIBITED EXPENSES

Expenses not eligible for reimbursement include but are not limited to:

- (a) Expenses for any non-employee or non-elected official.
- (b) Non-business-related telephone calls.
- (c) Entertainment expenses unless pre-approved by the City Manager or the authorized designee.
- (d) Alcoholic beverages.
- (e) Outside meals if the conference/event lodging reservation includes a meal package.
- (f) Any travel-related expense that is covered by another source.

620.5 APPROVALS

All travel should be pre-approved by the City Manager or the authorized designee. Once travel has been completed, the employee or elected official should submit requests for travel expense reimbursement:

- (a) To the City Manager or the authorized designee for review and approval as soon as practicable, but no later than 14 days after completion of travel.
- (b) On a city form. The form should contain a statement that the expenses were incurred by the traveler as necessary for the performance of official duties and shall be verified by a written declaration that all information is true and correct.
- (c) With an attached receipt or other documentation of the expense.

Upon receipt of a request for reimbursement, the City Manager or the authorized designee should review and process the request as appropriate. If additional information is needed to process the request, the employee should be given an opportunity to provide the information. If a request for reimbursement is denied, the reason for the denial should be provided in writing, and the employee should have an opportunity to respond.

If an employee fails to follow the required processes and obtain appropriate approvals, reimbursement of travel expenses may be denied.

Conflict of Interest

621.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to assist employees in recognizing and avoiding potential conflicts of interest, thereby ensuring effective and ethical operating practices on the part of the City.

621.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Business relationship - A situation when an employee serves as an employee, independent contractor, compensated consultant, owner, board member, shareholder, or investor in an outside business, company, partnership, corporation, venture, or other transaction where the employee's annual interest, compensation, investment, or obligation is greater than \$250. This includes business relationships as defined by state law.

Conflict of interest - Any actual, perceived, or potential conflict of interest in which it reasonably appears that an employee's action, inaction, or decisions are or may be influenced by an employee's personal or business relationship. This includes conflicts defined and prohibited by state law.

621.2 POLICY

Employees of the City are expected to conduct themselves with the utmost professional integrity and objectivity. Employees will guard against actual or perceived conflicts of interest to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of city employees and the public, and thereby maintain the trust of the public and city employees.

621.3 RESTRICTED DUTIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

The City prohibits the following types of personal or business relationships among employees:

- (a) Employees are prohibited from directly supervising, occupying a position in the line of supervision, or being directly supervised by any other employee who is a relative or with whom they are involved in a personal or business relationship.
 - 1. If circumstances require that such a supervisor/subordinate relationship exist temporarily, the supervisor should make every reasonable effort to defer matters pertaining to the involved employee to an uninvolved supervisor.
 - 2. When personnel and circumstances permit, the City will attempt to make every reasonable effort to avoid placing such employees in supervisor/subordinate situations. The City, however, reserves the right to transfer or reassign any employee to another position within the same classification to avoid conflicts with any provision of this policy.
- (b) Employees are prohibited from participating in, contributing to, or recommending promotions, assignments, performance evaluations, transfers, or other personnel decisions affecting an employee who is a relative or with whom they are involved in a personal or business relationship.

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- (c) Whenever possible, trainers should not be assigned to train relatives. Trainers are prohibited from entering or maintaining personal or business relationships with any employee they are assigned to train until such time as the training has been successfully completed and the employee is off probation.

621.3.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY

Employees shall follow all laws regarding actual or perceived conflicts of interest and should avoid situations that create the appearance of an actual or perceived conflict of interest. Employees should take reasonable steps to address a perception of a conflict of interest when such a perception is reasonably foreseeable and avoidable (e.g., deferring a decision to an uninvolved employee).

Whenever any employee is placed in circumstances that would require the employee to take enforcement action or to provide official information or services to any relative or individual with whom the employee is involved in a personal or business relationship, that employee shall promptly notify an uninvolved immediate supervisor.

In the event that no uninvolved supervisor is immediately available, the employee shall promptly notify the City Manager to have another uninvolved employee either relieve the involved employee or, minimally, remain present to witness the action.

621.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

Upon being notified of or otherwise becoming aware of any circumstance that could result in or constitute an actual or potential violation of this policy, a supervisor should take all reasonable steps to promptly mitigate or avoid such violations whenever possible.

Supervisors should also promptly notify the City Manager of such actual or potential violations.

Personal Firearms

622.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to promote the safety of all employees by providing guidance on the possession of firearms in the workplace.

This policy does not apply to duty firearms authorized by the City for use by employees while performing official duties.

622.2 POLICY

The City will make reasonable efforts to reduce risk to employees and the public by placing limitations on firearms being brought onto city property, or carried by employees during work hours or while representing the City in any capacity.

622.3 PROHIBITIONS

Employees are prohibited from possessing a firearm while on or in city property or city vehicles and while representing the City in any capacity except as provided in this policy and consistent with state law.

622.4 FIREARMS IN VEHICLES

Employees are prohibited from keeping a firearm in the employee's personal vehicle parked on city property except as expressly permitted by state law.

If state law permits an employee to keep a firearm in the employee's personal vehicle parked on city property, the firearm shall be safely secured consistent with the requirements of state law.