

**From:** [Raymond Dussault](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#); [Councilmember Michael Detoy](#); [Raymond Jackson](#); [City Clerk](#); [Mayor Justin Massey](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on Proposed Ordinance to fine up to \$1,000 Administrative Citation Procedures  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 1:04:57 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I am writing to provide my comments and concerns regarding the proposed ordinance to transfer various violations to administrative citation procedures. While I understand the intention behind streamlining enforcement processes, I believe the current proposal is overly broad and may have unintended consequences for our community.

The inclusion of violations such as parties on private property, solid waste collection, special events, outdoor fitness classes, and the use of the city logo under administrative citation procedures raises significant concerns. While parties on private property have been raised as a community issue, the other violations listed seem trivial in nature and may disproportionately penalize residents for minor infractions.

For instance, the proposed fines of \$250/\$500/\$1,000 for violations such as placing trash cans out a few minutes early or inadvertently using the city logo on social media posts appear excessive and do not reflect the severity of the offenses. Punishing residents with hefty fines for minor infractions, especially when the rules may not be widely known or understood, does not foster a sense of community or cooperation.

Moreover, the lack of clarity and specificity in the proposed ordinance makes it challenging to discuss the necessity, application, or requirements of these administrative citation procedures. Without clear guidelines and safeguards in place, there is a risk of misuse or abuse of authority by enforcement agencies.

Therefore, I recommend several amendments to the proposed ordinance:

1. Eliminate fines for trivial violations such as placing trash cans out a few minutes early, which do not pose significant harm to the community.
2. Preserve long-standing local traditions and community events that contribute to the unique identity of our city.
3. Implement a written warning system for first-time offenders to allow residents the opportunity to address any issues before facing fines.
4. Ensure that any fines imposed are proportionate to the severity of the violation and considerate of individual circumstances.

By incorporating these amendments, we can strike a balance between enforcing regulations and preserving the quality of life in our community. I urge the City Council to carefully consider these recommendations and revise the proposed ordinance accordingly.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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