

# CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution ratifying and confirming the Second Civil Emergency Order Establishing Prohibited Items of June 1, 2020.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mayor of the City of Bellevue signed the Second Civil Emergency Order Establishing Prohibited Items of June 1, 2020 prohibiting all persons (except for peace officers or military personnel engaged in the performance of their official duties) from possessing any weapon (with the exception of firearms) in restricted areas in order to protect the public health, safety and welfare. Per Bellevue City Code (BCC) 9.22.020, the Order must be presented to the City Council for ratification and confirmation. If not so ratified and confirmed, the Order shall be void.

# RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9765.

# **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

The killing of George Floyd by a police officer in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 25, 2020 has generated anger, outrage, protests, and demonstrations across the United States. In other cities, including Seattle, Portland, Atlanta, Phoenix, New York, Houston, San Jose, Los Angeles, Dallas, and Minneapolis, demonstrations over the killing of George Floyd have turned violent and led to other killings, property destruction, injuries to demonstrators and police officers, and use of force by police officers. Other cities, including Seattle, Portland, St. Paul, Louisville, Milwaukee, Columbus, Atlanta, Cincinnati, and Denver declared states of civil emergency and established mandatory curfews. On the evening of May 31, 2020, looting and property damage, assaults on police officers, and other acts of violence occurred in the City of Bellevue, as well as refusals to obey dispersal orders.

On May 31, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Bellevue, pursuant to the authority granted by BCC 9.22.010, determined that extraordinary measures were required to protect the health, safety and welfare of the City's residents and therefore proclaimed that a civil emergency exists within the City of Bellevue. BCC 9.22.020 authorizes the Mayor, during the existence of such proclaimed emergency, to make and proclaim various orders, including such orders as are imminently necessary for the protection of life and property. In the exercise of such authority, on May 31, 2020, the Mayor issued Civil Emergency Order Establishing Prohibited Items.

In furtherance of that authority, and based on continued threats of violent public disturbances, including potential property damage to businesses in the City, on June 1, 2020, the Mayor issued the Second Civil Emergency Order Establishing Prohibited items. The Second Civil Emergency Order expands the restricted area to not only the downtown area subject to the curfew, but also to other areas in the City that are zoned for generalized Commercial Use or Office Use. The Order prohibits the possession of weapons in the restricted areas with the intent to cause harm, with the exception of firearms. The Order

prohibits the discharge of firearms in the restricted areas, consistent with the right under Article I, section 24 of the state Constitution to bear arms in defense of self or others.

BCC 9.22.020 requires that the Second Civil Emergency Order Establishing Prohibited Items be presented to the City Council for ratification and confirmation at the earliest practical time. If the Order is not so ratified and confirmed, it shall be void.

This Resolution, if adopted, would ratify and confirm the Second Civil Emergency Order Establishing Prohibited Items of June 1, 2020.

# POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

#### **Policy Impact**

The Second Civil Emergency Order Establishing Prohibited Items of June 1, 2020 was issued for the purpose of protecting life and property.

## **Fiscal Impact**

There is no fiscal impact.

## OPTIONS

- 1. Adopt the Resolution ratifying and confirming Second Civil Emergency Order Establishing Prohibited Items of May 31, 2020.
- 2. Do not adopt the Resolution, which will result in the Second Civil Emergency Order Establishing Prohibited Items being void.

## **ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS**

Proposed Resolution No. 9765

## AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A