



# City Council Agenda Bill

20707

Bill Number

**Subject: A Work Session to consider two ordinances: an ordinance regarding the failure to respond to a notice of civil infraction; and an ordinance regarding pedestrian safety areas**

**Summary Statement:** In 2013 - 2014, Bellingham Mayor Kelli Linville convened a Community Solutions Workgroup to prioritize public health and safety solutions for various challenges facing downtown Bellingham. The workgroup identified adjusting municipal codes to allow for more effective intervention and enforcement in downtown and other areas. The ordinances for consideration include a failure to respond ordinance which authorizes police to issue a misdemeanor citation when individuals ignore civil infractions for behavior such as drinking in public; and a pedestrian safety area ordinance which expands the hours of prohibition for sitting and lying in public rights of way in the downtown pedestrian safety area and the Fairhaven pedestrian safety area in addition to other adjustments to the code related to pedestrian safety. Staff recommends a discussion of these ordinances followed by a public hearing prior to adoption.

**Previous Council Action:** Amendment of BMC 10.04.090 in September 2006 (signing civil infractions); amendment of BMC 11.48.140 in August 1993 (traffic infractions); amendment of BMC 10.24.070 in February 2002 (sitting or lying); and several amendments to BMC 11.52.010 (skateboarding).

**Fiscal Impact:** Enforcement to be covered by existing staff.

**Funding Source:** General fund

**Attachments:** Draft ordinance regarding the failure to respond to a notice of civil infraction  
Draft ordinance regarding pedestrian safety area

Meeting Activity	Meeting Date	Staff Recommendation	Presented By	Time
Committee Briefing Direction Requested	1/26/2015	Provide Direction	Peter Ruffatto, City Attorney and Clifford Cook, Police Chief	20 minutes

**Recommended Motion:**

**Council Committee:**  
Public Works and Public Safety Committee

**Agenda Bill Contact:**  
Peter Ruffatto, City Attorney's Office - 360-778-8270

Council Action:	Reviewed By	Department	Date
.	<i>Peter M. Ruffatto</i>	Legal	12/17/2014
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.	<i>Peter M. Ruffatto</i>	Legal	01/06/2015
.	<i>Kelli J. Linville</i>	Executive	01/20/2015