



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading for the City Council Meeting of October 12, 2021
Second Reading for the City Council Meeting of October 19, 2021

DATE: September 29, 2021

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: Heather Hurlbert, CPA, CGFO, Director of Finance and Procurement
Heatherh3@cctexas.com
361-826-3227

Amending the City of Corpus Christi's Film Ordinance

CAPTION:

Ordinance amending the City's Film Ordinance to only require permits for filming that excludes the public from public property, providing for fee and insurance waivers, and providing for existing penalties

SUMMARY:

This agenda item is requesting approval of proposed changes to the City of Corpus Christi's current Film Ordinance to provide clarifying language on when film makers are required to obtain a permit and insurance for filming within the city limits and on City property in accordance with the First Amendment.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Recently a situation occurred which resulted in confusion as to when permits and insurance are required for film making within the city limits of Corpus Christi. As a result, local filmmakers approached the City of Corpus Christi and the Film Commission requesting an update to the existing Film Ordinance which would allow for an exemption of insurance requirements. Visit Corpus Christi (VCC) staff researched existing Film Ordinances in Austin, Denton, El Paso, San Marcos, San Antonio, Seattle, Washington, and Atlanta, Georgia to identify best-practices in film-friendly communities regarding local filmmakers and permit and insurance requirements. These ordinances were compared to the current City Ordinance and VCC worked with City staff to recommend clarifying changes to reflect the best practices found in other cities' ordinances. These proposed changes were reviewed with a small group of representatives from the local film community and feed-back was given and incorporated where appropriate.

The proposed changes do not overhaul the existing film ordinance but rather provide clarifying language to make it easier to determine when a permit and insurance is required to be obtained. A permit and insurance are only required when filming requires the exclusive use of public property.

ALTERNATIVES:

City Council could choose to not amend the ordinance to include the clarifying language.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

Funding Detail:

N/A

Fund:

Organization/Activity:

Mission Element:

Project # **(CIP Only)**:

Account:

RECOMMENDATION:

City staff recommends approval of the ordinance amendment to include clarifying language on when film makers are required to obtain a permit and insurance for filming within the city limits and on City property in accordance with the First Amendment.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance