

Ordinance No. 00106

[\(Council Minutes 96/12/16\)](#)

ORDINANCE NO.106

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, creating a new Chapter 9.12 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relating to aggressive begging

WHEREAS, the City has received occasional complaints from individuals regarding begging activities occurring within the City; and,

WHEREAS, although some sort of begging may occur in almost any urban setting, the begging that causes the greatest concern and poses greatest impacts on the peaceful enjoyment of the community would be those begging activities which involve more aggressive and intimidating conducts; and,

WHEREAS, in order to address, to the extent possible those concerns, it is appropriate to provide in the City's Code regulations which prohibit aggressive begging and which define that term to include those types of begging activity which involves aggressive, intimidating or frightening conduct.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN as Follows:

Section 1. That a new Chapter 9.12 of the Lakewood Municipal Code, related to aggressive begging, be, and the same hereby is, created to read as follows:

Chapter 9.12

Aggressive Begging

Sections:

9.12.010 Aggressive begging.

9.12.020 Definitions.

9.12.030 Violation.

9.12.010 Aggressive begging.

It is unlawful for any person to engage in aggressive begging in any public place in the City, as those terms are defined by this section.

9.12.020 Definitions.

A "Aggressive Begging" means: (a) begging with intent to intimidate another person into giving money or goods; (b) begging with use of false, misleading information, where the person knew or reasonably should have known of the falsity or misleading nature of the information; (c) begging with or involving activities that are unsafe or dangerous to any person or property; (d) begging in a manner that exploits children; or (e) willfully providing or delivering, or attempting to provide or deliver unrequested or unsolicited services or products with a demand or exertion of pressure for payment in return. B. "Begging" means asking for money or goods as a charity, whether by words, bodily gestures, signs or other means.

C. "To intimidate" means to coerce or frighten into submission or obedience, or to engage in conduct which would make a reasonable person fearful or feel compelled.

D. "Public place" means: (a) any public road, alley, lane, parking area, sidewalk, or other publicly-owned building, facility or structure; (b) any public playground, school ground, recreation ground, park, parkway, park drive, park path or rights-of-way open to the use of the public; or (c) any privately-owned property adapted to and fitted for vehicular or pedestrian travel that is in common use by the public with the consent, expressed or implied, of the owner or owners; and .

E. "Exploit" means using in an unethical, selfish or abusive manner or in any other manner that seeks an unfair advantage.

9.12.030 Violation.

Violation of this section shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$1000 or by a jail sentence of up to 90 days, or by both such fine and jail time.

Section 2. If any portion of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Section 3. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect five (5) days after publication of the Ordinance Summary.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 16th day of December, 1996.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

/S/

Bill Harrison, Mayor

Attest:

/S/

Alice M. Bush, CMC, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

/S/

Daniel B. Heid, City Attorney

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