

ORDINANCE NO. 800

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, adopting a new section of the Lakewood Municipal Code, Chapter 1.22 City Flag Policy; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the City consistently follows certain practices regarding the display of flags inside and outside City facilities; and

WHEREAS, codification of these consistent practices will provide clarity for both the public and city employees; and

WHEREAS, the policy will ensure compliance with federal and state law regarding flag display.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Lakewood do ordain as follows:

Section 1. Adoption of New Chapter 1.22 City Flag Policy. The Lakewood Municipal Code is amended to adopt a new Chapter 1.22, City Flag Policy, as described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference as if set forth in full.

Section 2. Corrections. The City Clerk and the codifiers of this Ordinance are authorized to make necessary clerical corrections to this Ordinance including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section or subsection numbers and any references thereto.

Section 3. Severability. 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 4. Effective Date. Effective Date. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after publication of the Ordinance Summary.


ADOPTED by the City Council this 4th day of March, 2024.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Attest:




Jason Whalen, Mayor



Briana Schumacher, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:



Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney

Exhibit A

Chapter 1.22 FLAG DISPLAY

Sections:

1.22.010 Purpose and intent.

1.22.020 Allowed flags on city property.

1.22.030 Lowering flags to half-staff.

1.22.010 Purpose and intent. The purpose of this chapter is to regulate the official display of flags inside and outside of city facilities. It is the specific intent of the City Council of the city of Lakewood to follow the United States Flag Code and Washington State law in its flag displays on city property. Flag display in any city facility or on city property constitutes government speech. Raising flags is an expression of government sentiment and does not open up any city facility or property as a forum for public or limited public participation.

1.22.020 Allowed flags on city property. The city will fly or display only the following flags on property owned by the city: The flag of the United States of America; the Washington State flag; the POW/MIA flag; the City of Lakewood flag; and any other flag mandated by federal or Washington State law. The City will display only the following additional flags in City Council Chambers: the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine flags.

1.22.030 Lowering flags to half-staff. The city will lower flags displayed on City flagpoles to half-staff in the following circumstances: A. At the direction of the President of the United States; B. At the request of the Governor of the State of Washington; or C. At the request of the City Manager.