

City Council Staff Report

From: City Manager
Report Type: CONSENT CALENDAR
Lead Department: City Attorney

Meeting Date: April 3, 2023

Report #:2303-1105

TITLE

Adopt a Resolution Expressing Concern for Public Safety and Urging State and Federal Action on Firearms in Sensitive Places.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the City Council adopt the attached Resolution expressing concern for public safety and urging state and federal action to expand the list of sensitive places where firearms may be prohibited.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

On March 6, 2023, the City Council considered emergency and standard ordinances prohibiting the possession of firearms in certain sensitive places recognized by the Supreme Court. The Council adopted the emergency ordinance as written and adopted the standard ordinance with one change: in addition to City property, the ordinance was to include the property of other units of government with their authorization.

The Council further directed staff to return with a draft resolution addressing the issue of firearms in sensitive places. The relevant portion of the motion as it appears in the draft minutes is:

3. Direct staff to return with a draft resolution stating that the City of Palo Alto is deeply concerned for the safety of its residents given the epidemic of gun violence in our county, state, and country, and but for recent Supreme Court and other court decisions that substantially reduce the City's ability to ban firearms more broadly, the City of Palo Alto would prohibit firearms in a broader range of places, and the City calls on state and federal officials to do all they can to address this issue and broaden the list of sensitive places where firearms may be prohibited.

The motion passed 7-0.

Staff have drafted the resolution accordingly and recommend adopting the resolution as attached.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The adoption of this resolution does not meet the definition of a project under Public Resources Code Section 21065, thus, no environmental assessment under the California Environmental Quality Act is required.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Resolution Expressing Concern for Public Safety and Urging State and Federal Action on Firearms in Sensitive Places

APPROVED BY:

Molly Stump, City Attorney