

Ordinance 2025-

Executive Summary: Amendment to the Alcoholic Beverage Laws

The City Attorney and City Recorder Departments have been reviewing and conducting research to improve the process by which the Alcoholic Beverage Board (ABB) reviews and approves applications for Beer Permits. During the liquor store process, it was discovered that uploading full applications to the ABB agenda has led to security concerns. Specifically, applicants reported being contacted by scammers claiming they owe additional money to the city for their permits.

To address this issue, the proposed amendment aims to protect permit holders from such scams. The new process will involve submitting a one-page summary of the application with the necessary details for the ABB to make a decision. The full application will still be available, in the office of the City Recorder for inspection, ensuring transparency while safeguarding sensitive information.

To reduce confusion among applicants and streamline the application process, the code will also be updated to no longer display an application form in the code itself. Instead, individuals seeking to apply must obtain the appropriate application in person from the Office of the City Recorder. This change ensures applicants receive the most current and complete information directly from city staff.

Additionally, amendments to Chapter 4 will standardize location restrictions for Retail Liquor Stores, Retail Food Wine Certificates, and Beer Permits by clearly defining how distance measurements are determined. These updates aim to improve clarity, ensure consistent interpretation, and strengthen enforcement of the city's alcohol-related regulations.