

# CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION



**MEETING DATE:** May 06, 2025

**ITEM NUMBER:** 12.{{item.number}}

**SECOND READING:**

{{customfields.ResoOrdNumber}}

**TYPE OF ITEM:** General Business

**PRESENTED BY:**

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**SUBJECT/AGENDA TITLE:**

A Bill For An Ordinance Amending Title 10 Of The Longmont Municipal Code Concerning Residency Restrictions For Registered Sex Offenders

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

City residents approached City Council expressing concerns with the number of sex offenders living in a residence and its impacts to the community.

On March 4, 2025, City Council discussed a potential ordinance creating restrictions on where registered sex offenders may reside. Council directed staff to bring back options related to residency distance requirements for registered sex offenders.

On April 1, 2025, staff presented residency distance requirement options and City Council requested that staff bring back an ordinance creating the following residency distance requirements for registered sex offenders:

- 1,000 feet from any school or childcare center; and
- 500 feet from any private park or public park.

On April 22, 2025, City Council directed staff to include a restriction on the number of unrelated registered sex offenders who may reside together.

Consistent with City Council's direction, staff have prepared an ordinance that, if adopted, would make it unlawful for a registered sex offender to reside within 1,000 feet of any school or childcare center, to reside within 500 feet of any private or public park, and to reside with three or more other unrelated registered sex offenders. The ordinance also makes it unlawful for any individuals to knowingly rent a dwelling unit to a registered sex offender that will violate this ordinance. Violations will be handled in Longmont Municipal Court and penalties include a fine of up to \$500.00 and imprisonment up to 90 days or both such fine and imprisonment.

The potential ordinance is forward-looking, meaning existing residencies that otherwise

violate the restrictions are grandfathered in. An exception is included for residences determined by state-licensed foster care programs to comply with state law.

**COUNCIL OPTIONS:**

1. Approve the proposed amendments to Title 10 as presented.
2. Do not approve the proposed amendments to Title 10 as presented.
3. Approve proposed amendments to Title 10 with changes.

**RECOMMENDED OPTIONS:**

Option 1 - Approve the proposed amendments to Title 10 as presented.

**FISCAL IMPACT & FUND SOURCE FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

No fiscal impact is anticipated, based solely on the modifications to Title 10.

**BACKGROUND AND ISSUE ANALYSIS:**Residency Restriction Background:

For further background on residency distance requirements for registered sex offenders, please refer to the council communications and meeting videos for the prior items on this topic:

[March 4, 2025. Regular Session Item 12B](#)

[April 1, 2025. Study Session Item 6B](#)

The State of Colorado enacted the Colorado Sex Offender Registration Act effective July 1, 2002. The act mandates that individuals convicted of an unlawful sexual offense, as defined in the act, register with the local law enforcement agency in each jurisdiction in which they reside. Local law enforcement agencies must accept the registration unless that location or residence violates a state law or local ordinance.

Based upon City Council input provided at the April 1, 2025, Study Session and April 22, 2025, regular session, staff drafted an ordinance amending Title 10 to address residency distance requirements for registered sex offenders.

The proposed ordinance identifies restrictions on establishing permanent or temporary residency within the City for certain categories of individuals with sex offenses: an individual who has been found to be a Sexually Violent Predator pursuant to C.R.S. 18-3-414.5; or any person required to register under the Colorado Sex Offender Registration Act, C.R.S. Section 16-22-101, *et. seq.*, who has been: (i) convicted of a felony for an offense requiring registration with a victim less than 18 years old, (ii) has multiple convictions for offenses requiring registration, or (iii) whose offense(s) requiring registration involve multiple victims.

The proposed restrictions prohibit an individual who is required to register as a sex offender under one of the criteria above, from establishing a permanent residence or temporary residence within 1,000 feet of any school or childcare center; and 500 feet of any private park or public park, and from residing with three or more unrelated registered sex offenders. This proposed ordinance and restrictions would not apply to individuals who are currently living within the proposed restricted distances. It would apply, however, if there was a change in their residence after an ordinance with distance requirements is passed. The proposed ordinance would also not apply against persons who are no longer are required to register as sex offenders—notwithstanding any criminal convictions.

City Council also inquired about notification and engagement opportunities at the April 1, 2025, meeting. Staff confirmed that the Colorado Department of Public Safety maintains a free subscription notification service through the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI). CBI's [Sex Offender Registry notification service](#) allows site users who establish an account to receive email notifications regarding sex offender registrants by zip code. Notifications are sent to subscribers once a week of a change to the registrant's information.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Att 1 - Ordinance

Att 2 - Restriction map: schools, childcare centers, public parks, & private parks

Att 3 - Regulation Comparison - Number of registrants allowed per home