



LEGAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Office of the City Clerk

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To: Katie Van Zeeland, Safety & Licensing Committee Chair, Safety & Licensing Committee Members

From: Kami Lynch, City Clerk

Date: May 24, 2021

Re: 2021 Alcohol Licensing Policy Updates & Convenience Store Regulations

The Alcohol Licensing Policy is reviewed and updated periodically to ensure it is consistent with state law, municipal code, and best practices for licensed establishments. Upon the most recent review, it was a goal to define and clarify the provisions on "Convenience Store" licenses. The current policy indicates that convenience stores selling gasoline may not hold a "Class A" liquor license, therefore some research was done to locate where this is referenced in our municipal code. After review, we are unable to confirm any action taken to create an ordinance to prohibit the issuance of "Class A" liquor licenses to convenience stores that sell gasoline. The City has operated under this policy of not allowing convenience stores selling gasoline to hold "Class A" liquor licenses since the 1990s but in order for this to continue, the City needs to adopt an ordinance that both defines convenience stores and prohibits the issuance of "Class A" liquor licenses to said stores that sell gasoline.

Therefore, as the Alcohol License Policy is before you, staff would like direction on the policy and also on the provision of convenience stores selling gasoline holding "Class A" liquor licenses. The options include:

1. Leave the provision that prohibits convenience stores selling gasoline from holding "Class A" liquor licenses and direct staff to draft an ordinance on this provision.
2. Remove the provision that prohibits convenience stores selling gasoline from the policy and allow these establishments to apply for "Class A" liquor licenses going forward.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions on the Alcohol License Policy and the related implications of the convenience stores selling gasoline provision of the policy.

Respectfully,

Kami Lynch, City Clerk