

Subject:	Prohibition of Certain Items in City Buildings - Procedures For Search Of Prohibited Items - Safety, Security and Decorum In Council Chambers	Number: 6-26
		Date Issued: August 15, 2013
		Date Revised:
Responsible Department:	City Manager's Office	Approved: 

Purpose

To regulate illegal items in City buildings and provide for search of prohibited items brought into Council Chambers; to maintain safety, security, and decorum of the Council meetings; to provide for the designation of reserved seating in Council Chambers for City officials, employees, and presenters.

Policy

The City desires to provide a safe, healthy and violence free work and meeting environment. The President of the City Council has the authority to preserve order and decorum at all Council meetings (FMC § 2-304). All persons who attend Council meetings are required to preserve order and decorum while Council is in session (FMC § 2-314).

Procedure

1. No one shall be allowed to possess in City buildings items or substances, such as guns, knives, caustic chemicals (such as tear gas, acids or substances that may give off toxic or noxious odors), other weapons such as nun chucks, chains, tasers, etc., or controlled substances, that are illegal for them to possess or bring into public buildings under the laws of the United States or State of California.
2. To ensure prohibited items (described in Paragraph 1) are not brought into Council Chambers and to preserve the health, safety and security of persons within Council Chambers, signs that read "**ALL BAGS AND CONTAINERS MAY BE SUBJECT TO SEARCH**" shall be posted at public entrances to Council Chambers. The signs shall state the items prohibited pursuant to this Order, and that entry may require consent to search of bags or other containers. If consent is denied, and if security personnel believe law enforcement presence is warranted, entry may be denied and/or the matter shall be brought to the attention of the Council President and/or the City Manager, who may request the presence of the Police to ensure the safety and security of City staff and the public.

3. Within Council chambers, no person shall be permitted to wear a mask or material of any kind that obscures the face of the person, except for legitimate religious or medical reasons.
4. The Council President and/or the City Manager may reserve specified seating for City officials, employees, and presenters in Council Chambers, provided accommodations are made available to companions of persons with special needs and/or disabilities.