

## PUBLIC UTILITIES AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Fact Sheet: Proposed Changes to Amend sections 4553.01, 4553.03, and 4553.05 of Chapter 4553



**Drafter:**

**Ordinance Number:**

**Email and Phone:**

**Being Amended/Created/Repealed:**

To amend Chapter 2319 of the Columbus City Codes to provide technical corrections and add language to strengthen provisions and enforcement of Minor's curfew. To repeal and replace existing sections 2319.30, 2319.31, and 2319.32.

**What is the overall purpose of this code change?** *Summarize the general themes of the code change(s) and the need for these changes. Please utilize language and descriptors that would be easily understandable by the general public.*

To make technical corrections, add definitions, and add enforcement clarity to strengthen the city's Minor curfew regulations.

**Why is this code change needed?** *Examples: Correcting a drafting error; bringing code into alignment with changes to state law. For other policy changes, it may be necessary to provide a much more in-depth rationale in the section.*

This code change is necessary to modernize and strengthen the City's current curfew ordinance. The existing ordinance is vague and lacks clarity on enforcement guidelines for law enforcement and the courts. This change adds in a graduated penalty structure for minors and an escalating parental responsibility framework, while still prioritizing restorative justice approaches for first-time violations. This change also increases the enforcement window from 4:30 am to 6:00, and delays certain penalty provisions until Jan.1, 2027 to allow for continued public engagement and to increase public safety and better align the City with our neighbors and peer cities.

**What would be the impact of not adopting this code change?**



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Certain definitions and provisions in the code will remain unclear. Proactive Enforcement of minor curfew will continue to be difficult. Lack of accountability of minors and parents/guardians for violation of curfew laws.

**Are there any operating or capital budget cost/savings implications for this code change?**  
*These may be direct or indirect, and please also note any long-term impact.*

There are no budget implications.

**Describe the community engagement process regarding this code change. What residents, impacted parties, and constituents may be affected? Have they been engaged, and how so? How was their feedback incorporated (or not incorporated) into this code change?**

This code change is a result of efforts beginning in August of 2025 to strengthen the city's curfew regulations. Since then councilmembers and staff leading this effort have held meetings with a wide array of stakeholders such as; the division of Police, FC Municipal Court, Juvenile judges, FC prosecutor office, juvenile court, city attorney office, business leaders, City departments, and a number of community leaders, non-profit organizations, and residents in the community. This language was constantly updated after feedback from those meetings. Council President Hardin and the Public Safety committee also held a public hearing in April of this year to provide the community with an overview of this code change and allow for public input.

**Will this code change take effect with the ordinance, or is there a delayed effective date?**

This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.



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