

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

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12/10/2024
TN

Date: December 10, 2024

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Allison E. Burns, City Attorney
Rodrick Armalin, Chief of Police - Lancaster Police Department

Subject: Ordinance No. XXX Repealing and Replacing Chapter 9.16 of the Lancaster Municipal Code Relating to Curfew, Truancy, and Loitering by Minors
Ordinance No. XXX Adding Chapter 9.52 to the Lancaster Municipal Code Relating to Civil Penalties for Failure to Supervise or Control Minor

Recommendations:

1. Introduce **Ordinance No. XXX** Repealing and Replacing Chapter 9.16 of the Lancaster Municipal Code Relating to Curfew, Truancy, and Loitering by Minors
2. Introduce **Ordinance No. XXX** Adding Chapter 9.52 to the Lancaster Municipal Code Relating to Civil Penalties for Failure to Supervise or Control Minor

Fiscal Impact:

The cost recovery is intended to reimburse the City for its actual costs associated with services related to the detention, processing, transportation, and supervision of minors under the age of 18 detained for violating any public offense.

Background:

In recent months, the City has seen an increase in unsupervised youth congregating in groups of 4-10 at various events, on the BLVD, and at shopping centers throughout the City. These groups are disrupting businesses, entering businesses and participating in retail theft, attacking vendors, fighting, breaking windows, and generally disturbing the peace. These disturbances have occurred during the day and night on numerous occasions for several months.

These disturbances deter the general public from attending events that are intended to bring the community together, drive business away from business districts, and have on several occasions led to violence. These incidents burden the City with significant costs as they often require

substantial resources from the Lancaster Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and City staff to protect citizens, property, and bring the incidents to an end.

These ordinances are a necessary step to require every parent or legal guardian of any person under the age of 18 years to exercise reasonable care, supervision, protection and control over their minor child or ward.

CM:

Attachment:

Ordinance Nos. XXX and XXX