

Ordinance of 2023

An Ordinance amending and restating Article VIII of the Code of the City of Washington regarding Police Protection During Certain Activities

Whereas, the City of Washington City Council find some requirements of Article VIII are not applicable to all projects, and;

Whereas, Council acknowledges that some provisions can cause staffing issues with the City Police Department; and

Now, Therefore, the City Code is hereby amended and restated to provide in its entirety as follows:

Article VIII

Police Protection During Certain Activities

[Adopted 12-10-2009 by Ord. No. 1825]

§ 310-71 Permit and police protection.

Any company that plans to narrow a traffic pattern, change a traffic pattern, close a roadway to traffic, or detour traffic must first obtain a permit from the City of Washington and contact the City of Washington Chief of Police to arrange a Traffic Control Plan review to determine if police protection is needed in and around the construction zone, which must be accomplished at least three days prior to the applicant taking any action as contemplated herein except in the case of emergency repairs. The Chief of Police or his/her designee, in consultation with the Mayor, City Administrator and Public Works Director, shall review the work to be performed and whether a Traffic Control Plan (TCP) is in place. The plan should follow guidelines in PA Dot Publication 213. Within 2 days of submission the Chief or his/her designee shall decide if police protection is needed to ensure public safety and inform the applicant of his/her decision. Traffic Control Plan applications are available at City Offices and on the City web site.

§ 310-72 When two police officers required.

Any roadway work that covers more than 150 feet in length or interferes with or impedes the regular flow of traffic with one or more intersections may, as determined by the Chief of Police or his/her designee, require additional police protection of a minimum of two officers from the City of Washington Police Department.

§ 310-73 Hourly rate; minimum assignment length.

Any applicant hereunder shall pay for said police protection at the rate of \$85 an hour, with a four-hour minimum per officer. The City Council, from time to time, may establish a rate by resolution. If the decision by the Chief of Police is that adequate safety measures are in place and police protection is not required, the applicant may request police on the site which would be at the established rate and subject to staffing availability.

§ 310-74 Violations and penalties.

Any person engaging in activities contemplated herein who fails to comply with this article will be ordered to cease and desist from any further activities and/or construction until actual compliance can be confirmed by the Chief of Police. Any person who violates a cease-and-desist order issued under this chapter shall be subject to a minimum fine of \$300, but not more than \$1,000 per occurrence/violation.