



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 14, 2020

**DATE:** June 2, 2020

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Dave Solaro, Arch., P.E., Assistant County Manager  
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**THROUGH:** Eric Brown, County Manager

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing for the second reading and possible adoption of an ordinance amending Washoe County Code Chapter 70 (Vehicles and Traffic) by adding a definition for “non-commissioned deputy”; by updating the traffic control committee to replace references to the director of public works with the director of the community services department; and by amending a provision related to the categories of personnel who may issue citations for illegally parked vehicles, and all other matters properly relating thereto. (All Commission Districts.)

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### SUMMARY

The Community Services Department, at the request of the Board of County Commissioners, initiated the process to amend Washoe County Code (“WCC”) Chapter 70 (Vehicles and Traffic) to allow for additional categories of personnel who may issue parking citations in the unincorporated areas of the County. Specifically, the request was to add non-commissioned deputies and Constables as appropriate classifications of employees to issue citations for illegally parked vehicles.

The proposed changes to WCC Chapter 70 include adding section 70.072 to add a definition for “non-commissioned deputy”, as well as amending section 70.585 to include non-commissioned deputies and constables, as well as police officers, as authorized persons who may issue citations for illegally parked vehicles. As a clean-up matter, this ordinance also updates a provision related to the traffic control committee, substituting the director of the community services department for the former director of public works in that code section.

**Strategic Objective supported by this item:** Safe, secure and healthy communities.

### PREVIOUS ACTION

On June 23, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners (“Board”) held an introduction and first reading of an ordinance amending Washoe County Code Chapter 70 (Vehicles and Traffic) by adding a definition for “non-commissioned deputy”; by updating the traffic control committee to replace references to the director of public works with the director of the community services department; and by amending a provision related to the categories of personnel who may issue citations for illegally parked vehicles, and all

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other matters properly relating thereto; and set the public hearing for second reading and possible adoption of the ordinance for July 14, 2020.

On April 28, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners (“Board”) approved a request to initiate proceedings to amend Washoe County Code Chapter 70 (Vehicles and Traffic) pursuant to a request by Commissioners to allow for additional personnel classifications that can issue parking citations; and directed the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of a proposed ordinance in accordance with Washoe County Code Section 2.030 and 2.040.

At the August 27, 2019 Board meeting, Commissioner Berkbigler requested “no parking” signs in Incline Village.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Board of County Commissioners may designate parking enforcement officers to prepare, sign and serve written citations on persons accused of violating a county ordinance in accordance with NRS 171.17751(1).

In the summer months, Washoe County sees an increase in illegally parked vehicles within our rights-of-way. While parking is allowed on the roadways, there is an issue in some neighborhoods, most pronounced in Incline Village, where roadside parking occurs in an illegal manner. WCC Chapter 70 currently limits the ability to enforce existing parking regulations to police officers. By adding non-commissioned deputies and Constables as authorized parking enforcement officers who may issue citations for illegal parking, issues can be resolved without interrupting other law enforcement functions.

Staff from the Sheriff’s Office as well as the Incline Village Constable have met with the Manager’s Office to discuss the ability to better enforce parking laws. Staff determined that some enforcement issues will be resolved by adding specific authorized categories of personnel who may issue parking citations to WCC Chapter 70. This change provides an avenue to utilize seasonal non-commissioned deputies, as well as the Constable to issue parking citations in an effort to begin better enforcement of illegally parked vehicles within Washoe County rights-of-way.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The proposed code changes are not expected to increase costs.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners hold a second reading with possible adoption of an ordinance amending Washoe County Code Chapter 70 (Vehicles and Traffic) by adding a definition for “non-commissioned deputy”; by updating the traffic control committee to replace references to the director of public works with the director of the community services department; and by amending a provision related to the categories of personnel who may issue citations for illegally parked vehicles, and all other matters properly relating thereto.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to adopt an ordinance amending Washoe County Code Chapter 70 (Vehicles and Traffic) by adding a definition for "non-commissioned deputy"; by updating the traffic control committee to replace references to the director of public works with the director of the community services department; and by amending a provision related to the categories of personnel who may issue citations for illegally parked vehicles, and all other matters properly relating thereto."