City Council Agenda Item Request
Submit to Clerk's Office
No later than 30 days before proposed Council meeting

- **Date submitted to Clerk's Office:** August 5, 2025
- **Primary contact person and Department requesting agenda item:** Deputy Chief Sean Aardema, Police
- **Requested Council meeting date:** August 26, 2025 - Second and final reading - September 9, 2025 - Due to a fairly new state law, a second procedural note is necessary that requires any ordinance with a criminal penalty to pass 2 votes before being enacted.
- **Subject:** Proposed amendments to Asheville city ordinance 11-5, Public Solicitation and Begging Regulated
- **Action Requested:** Amending City Code Sec. 11-15 regarding Public Solicitation and Begging to increase certain high traffic zones and create new ones.
- **Note if time sensitive, and why:** N/A
- **Potential fiscal impact(s) - if known by staff at time of request:** None
- **Identify all vendor outreach for Minority & Women Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE).** N/A
- **Identify all Boards, Commissions and Council Committees with tentative dates - add in the vote and recommendation from each Board:**

  Public Safety Committee on July 31, 2025 - 3-0 to move to full council for consideration.

- **Identify key issues:**
  - The APD is confident that the recommendation of an expansion of the existing solicitation ordinance will provide them with additional tools to address calls for service related to solicitation, as well as help in responding to community concerns over solicitation in high traffic zones.
  - Ordinance 11-5 currently addresses high traffic zones in subsection (2)a.:
    - The communication, by use of gestures or spoken words, by one person or group of persons directed at another person or group of persons, of a request for a contribution of any type to the person or group making the communication or to others. This definition shall not include transactions between family members or mutual acquaintances.
    - Zone 1: Within the area defined by a line drawn along the centerline of the following streets: starting at the intersection of Hilliard Avenue and Market Street, west along Hilliard Avenue to the intersection of Hilliard Avenue and French Broad Avenue; then north along French Broad Avenue to the intersection of French Broad Avenue and Haywood Street; then east Haywood Street to the intersection of Haywood Street and Montford Avenue; then north along Montford Avenue to the intersection of Montford Avenue and Cherry Street; then east along Cherry Street to the intersection of Cherry Street and Broadway Street; then south on Broadway Street to the intersection of Broadway Street and Woodfin Street; then east on Woodfin Street to the intersection of Woodfin Street and College Street; then south on Valley Street to the intersection of Valley Street and Marjorie Street; then west along Marjorie Street to the intersection of Marjorie Street and Davidson Street; then south on Davidson Street to the intersection of Davidson Street and Eagle Street; then west along Eagle Street to the intersection of Eagle Street and Market Street; then south on Market Street to the point of beginning.
    - Zone 2: Within Biltmore Village Historic District.
  - Expansion of high traffic zone 1 to include sections of Merrimon Avenue and Chestnut Streets, as well as incorporating the South Slope
  - Addition of two zones that encompass the Haywood Road corridor in west Asheville and Patton Avenue west of the French Broad River.