

ORDINANCE O-4686

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND RELATING TO FIREARMS AND WEAPONS AND RESTRICTING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS.

1 WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland ("City") is committed to helping
2 keep Kirkland a safe, welcoming and inclusive city for all people; and

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4 WHEREAS, as part of that effort the City is committed to helping
5 foster safe and responsible firearms ownership and practices in Kirkland;
6 and

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8 WHEREAS, Kirkland is a growing city of almost 90,000 residents
9 in an increasingly urban, built environment; and

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11 WHEREAS, the City Council has concluded there are no longer
12 any areas within Kirkland in which it is safe for individuals other than
13 law enforcement officers in the line of duty or individuals in the defense
14 of self or others to discharge firearms without creating a reasonable
15 likelihood of putting humans, domestic animals or property in jeopardy;
16 and

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18 WHEREAS, RCW 9.41.300 authorizes cities to enact ordinances
19 restricting the discharge of firearms in any portion of their jurisdiction
20 where there is a reasonable likelihood that humans, domestic animals
21 or property will be jeopardized, provided such ordinance does not
22 abridge the right of the individual guaranteed by Article I, Section 24 of
23 the Washington Constitution to bear arms in defense of self or others;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, various cities have enacted such restrictions while
26 creating exceptions for properly licensed rifle and pistol firing ranges
27 and for the discharge of firearms by law enforcement officers engaged
28 in the performance of their official powers or duties.

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30 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Kirkland do
31 ordain as follows:

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33 Section 1. A new Section 11.41.180 of the Kirkland Municipal
34 Code is hereby created to read as follows:

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36 11.41.180 Restricting the discharge of firearms.

37 Except for law enforcement officers in the performance of their official
38 powers and duties and individuals in the lawful defense of self or others,
39 it is unlawful to discharge any firearm in any portion of the city due to
40 the reasonable likelihood that humans, domestic animals, or property
41 will be jeopardized thereby; provided, however, the provisions of this
42 section shall not apply to a rifle or pistol firing range which has been
43 issued a business license by the city for such purpose. For all purposes
44 under this title, the term "firearm" shall have that same meaning as set
45 forth in RCW 9.41.010(11) and as such statute may hereafter be
46 amended.

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Section 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect five days from and after its passage by the Kirkland City Council and publication, as required by law.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 7th day of May, 2019.

Signed in authentication thereof this 7th day of May, 2019.



Penny Sweet, Mayor

Attest:

Publication Date: May 13, 2019



Kathi Anderson, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:



Kevin Raymond, City Attorney