



TO: Gahanna City Council
Clerk of Council

FROM: Priya D. Tamilarasan, Esq., City Attorney

Cc: Mayor Laurie A. Jadwin
Chief Jeff Spence
Director Stephanía Ferrell

DATE: February 28, 2025

SUBJECT: Department of Law – Request for Council Action (March 3, 2025 Committee of the Whole)

ACTION ITEMS

ACTION ITEM #1: REQUEST FOR ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

Pursuant to contract, as amended in 2019, Municode provided an annual update of Part Three of the Codified Ordinances, i.e. the Traffic Code, and Part Five of the Codified Ordinances, i.e. the General Offenses Code, which was further reviewed and revised by the Department of Law. All updates are to achieve compliance with recent State Code changes. Many of these code changes take effect April 9, 2025; Waiver is requested, with an effective date of April 9, 2025 to be in compliance with State code especially in regard to OVI penalties.

In creation of the final, clean copy there were minor punctuation changes necessary; and discussion with the Chief of Police and Director of Parks and Recreation initiated a review of our Criminal Mischief Section. Due to a lack of code language that specifically addresses tampering with AEDs, the revised proposed code changes include a revision to Criminal Mischief to specifically include AEDs and to enhance the penalty for tampering with them from a Misdemeanor 3 (punishable by up to 90 days jail and a fine of \$750) to a Misdemeanor 1 (punishable by up to 180 days jail and a fine of \$1000). Theft of an AED is a felony of the fifth degree by virtue of their value exceeding \$1,000 and is punishable by up to a year in prison and a fine of \$2500. These penalties are intended to be listed on signage for the newly installed AEDs.

Conclusion:

The Department of Law respectfully requests Council approve the attached code changes.

Requested Legislation and Funding:

Legislation Needed:	Ordinance
Emergency/Waiver:	Waiver
Vendor Name:	N/A
Vendor Address:	N/A
Already Appropriated:	N/A
Supplemental/Transfer:	N/A

Attachments:

LEG-ATT Traffic Code Update – REDLINE Revised
LEG-ATT Traffic Code Update - CLEAN
LEG-ATT General Offenses Code Update – REDLINE Revised
LEG-ATT General Offenses Code Update - CLEAN