

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

From: The City Manager

Subject: Amendment to Curfew Ordinance

Manager's Recommendation:

I recommended that Section 130.51 of Chapter 130 "Offenses Against Public Peace and Safety" of Title XIII, "General Offenses" of the City of Saginaw Code of Ordinances, O-1, be amended to add a daytime curfew provision. An Ordinance has been prepared and appears under the regular order of business.

Justification:

The current ordinance prohibits children under the age of 17 from being in public between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. The proposed amendment would similarly prohibit school age children from being in public areas while public schools are in session. This would apply to both children who are truant as well as those on suspension (and not allowed to attend school).

This will provide additional tools for police whom sometimes encounter groups of school-aged children in public areas during the day. The school system has also sought this change to encourage children on school suspension to attend voluntary programs that the school would create and maintain.

Exceptions for the daytime curfew would include children under parental supervision, on school field trips and authorized home-schooled children.

Council Action:

This Council Communication is being submitted to explain the ordinance to be introduced in a subsequent portion of the agenda.