

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING HARDIN CITY CODE AMENDING PEDESTRIAN INTERFERENCE

WHEREAS, the City Council (hereinafter "Council") of the City of Hardin (hereinafter "City") desires to modify the misdemeanor offense of Pedestrian Interference, codified as § 6-1-12 in the Hardin City Code.

WHEREAS, the Council finds that there is an increasing danger to pedestrians resting or sleeping in boulevards and rights of way, adjacent to vehicle traffic;

WHEREAS, the Council also finds that persons resting or sleeping in boulevards or rights of way leads to conduct which disturbs the public peace and which is offensive to public morals.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF HARDIN, MONTANA, Title 6, Chapter 1, Section 12, Subsection A is amended by the insertion of language (underlined), as follows:

6-1-12: PEDESTRIAN INTERFERENCE:

A. The following definitions apply in this section:

AGGRESSIVELY BEG: To beg with the intent to intimidate another person into giving money or goods. Aggressive begging also includes approaching any occupied vehicle or any pedestrian, whether on private or public property, without invitation, to ask for money or goods as charity.

BEG: To ask for money or goods as a charity, whether by words, bodily gestures, signs, or other means.

INTIMIDATE: To engage in conduct which would make a reasonable person fearful or feel compelled.

OBSTRUCT PEDESTRIAN OR VEHICULAR TRAFFIC: To walk, stand, sit, lie or place an object in such a manner as to block passage by another person or a vehicle, or to require another person or a driver of a vehicle to take evasive action to avoid physical contact. Acts authorized as an exercise of one's constitutional right to picket or legally protest shall not constitute obstruction of pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

PUBLIC PLACE: An area generally visible to public view and includes alleys, bridges, buildings, driveways, parking lots, parks, plazas, sidewalks, boulevards, rights of way, and streets open to the general public, including those that serve

food or drink or provide entertainment, and the doorways and entrances to buildings or dwellings and the grounds enclosing them.

DATE OF EFFECT.

The amendment to this ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from the date of its second reading and passage by the City Council as required by law.

FIRST READING AND PASSAGE By a majority vote of the members present this 1st day of July, 2025.

YEAS 4

NAYS 0

[Signature]
Mayor

ATTEST:

[Signature]
City Clerk



POSTED AND MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC this 3rd day of July, 2025.

[Signature]
City Clerk

SECOND READING AND PASSAGE By a majority vote of the members present this 15th day of July, 2025.

YEAS 5

NAYS 0

[Signature]
Mayor

ATTEST:

[Signature]
City Clerk

