

**FRIENDSWOOD CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM FORM**

Date requested for City Council consideration: August 4, 2025

Date submitted: 07/07/2025

Prepared by: Karen Horner, City Attorney

Subject: Consider on second and final reading an ordinance amending Chapter 18 "Businesses," Article II "Peddlers, Solicitors, Canvassers, Itinerant Vendors," Division II "Registration," Section 18-58 "Hours" of the Friendswood City Code to update the days and hours when solicitation is permitted.

Originating Department: City Attorney

Degree of importance:

**SUMMARY / ORIGINATING CAUSE**

Based upon a 1991 City ordinance, the hours of operation of registered solicitors are from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. These hours allow solicitors to operate after dark, which could result in (i) in a safety risk for the solicitor due to reduced visibility and (ii) result in noise disturbances and crime risks.

In a survey of other cities, the Police Department has found that several neighboring cities further restrict the hours of operation of these vendors. The proposed ordinance brings the City's regulations in alignment with ordinances of other cities and allows such registered solicitors to operate Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever comes first.

This is the second and final reading of this ordinance. The City Council passed this ordinance on first reading on July 7, 2025.

**IMMINENT CONSEQUENCES / BENEFIT TO COMMUNITY**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff recommends approval.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Ordinance - Hours for Solicitors

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 18 "BUSINESSES," ARTICLE II "PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, CANVASSERS, ITINERANT VENDORS," DIVISION II "REGISTRATION," SECTION 18-58 "HOURS" OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CODE TO UPDATE THE DAYS AND HOURS WHEN SOLICITATION IS PERMITTED; PROVIDING A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF FIVE HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00); REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT OR IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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WHEREAS, the City of Friendswood, in its efforts to protect the public health, safety and welfare, desires to restrict the hours of operation of peddlers, solicitors, canvassers and itinerant vendors (collectively "itinerant merchants"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that such restriction is necessary in order not only to reduce noise disturbances, lower crime risks, and ensure peaceful nighttime environments but also to protect itinerant merchants by reducing their exposure to unsafe working conditions due to reduced visibility; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds that prohibiting operations of itinerant merchants on Sundays provides a day of reduced commercial activity, which allows City resources to focus on essential services; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, STATE OF TEXAS:

Section 1. The facts and matters set forth in the preamble of this ordinance are hereby found to be true and correct.

Section 2. That Chapter 18 "Businesses," Article II "Peddlers, Solicitors, Canvassers, Itinerant Vendors," Division II "Registration," Section 18-58 "Hours" of the Friendswood City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 18. BUSINESSES**

**ARTICLE II. PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, CANVASSERS, ITINERANT VENDORS**

**DIVISION II. REGISTRATION**

**Sec. 18-58. Hours.**

Business conducted in accordance with this article shall be permitted Monday through Saturday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever occurs first.

Section 3. A violation of this ordinance is subject to the penalty provisions contained in Section 1-14 of the Friendswood City Code and as otherwise provided by law. Any person who shall intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence fail to comply with any provision of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in an

amount not to exceed FIVE HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00). Each act of violation and each day upon which any such violation shall occur shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 4. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby expressly repealed.

Section 5. In the event any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, provision, sentence, or part of this ordinance or the application of the same to any person or circumstance shall for any reason be adjudged invalid or held unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect, impair, or invalidate this ordinance as a whole or any part or provision hereof other than the part declared to be invalid or unconstitutional; and the City Council of the City of Friendswood, Texas, declares that it would have passed each and every part of the same notwithstanding the omission of any such part thus declared to be invalid or unconstitutional, or whether there be one or more parts.

Section 6. The City Secretary shall give notice of the enactment of this ordinance by promptly publishing the caption of this ordinance after final passage in the official newspaper of the City.

Section 7. This ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days from and after its passage on second reading by the City Council of the City of Friendswood, Texas, and its publication in the official newspaper of the City.

INTRODUCED, READ, AND PASSED on first reading by the affirmative vote of the City Council of the City of Friendswood this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025.

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MIKE FOREMAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

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RAQUEL MARTINEZ, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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KAREN L. HORNER, City Attorney

INTRODUCED, READ, AND PASSED on second and final reading by the affirmative vote of the City Council of the City of Friendswood this 4<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.

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MIKE FOREMAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

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RAQUEL MARTINEZ, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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KAREN L. HORNER, City Attorney