

Ordinance of the City of Jersey City, N.J.

File No. Ord. 21-041
Agenda No. 3.1 (1st Reading)
Agenda No. 4.1 (2nd Reading and Final Passage)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 131 (CONSTRUCTION CODES, UNIFORM) ADDING ARTICLE II REQUIRING GENDER NEUTRAL BATHROOM SIGNAGE FOR SINGLE-USER RESTROOMS.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE offered and moved adoption of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 131 (CONSTRUCTION CODES, UNIFORM) ADDING ARTICLE II REQUIRING GENDER NEUTRAL BATHROOM SIGNAGE FOR SINGLE-USER RESTROOMS.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY DOES ORDAIN THAT:

WHEREAS, Jersey City is recognized as one of the most diverse cities in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, Jersey City has been a home to the LGBTQ+ community and has prominent community leaders that make the city better every day.; and

WHEREAS, Jersey City has been a leader in LGBTQ+ policy including using executive orders to create gender-neutral bathrooms in municipal buildings., and

WHEREAS, restricting access to single-occupancy restrooms by gender creates problems of safety, and equity; and

WHEREAS, we must focus on equalizing access to all public facilities; and

WHEREAS, Jersey City residents of all genders should feel welcomed in all public accommodations.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Municipal Council of the Jersey of Jersey City that:

CHAPTER 131
CONSTRUCTION CODES, UNIFORM
ARTICLE II

GENDER-NEUTRAL SIGNAGE FOR SINGLE-USER RESTROOMS

§ -131-14 Definitions.

(A) GENDER NEUTRAL SIGNAGE mean a sign that indicates a restroom without preference to a specific gender.

(B) SINGLE-USER RESTROOM means a lockable restroom available for an individual for use with or without assistance.

§-131-15 SIGNAGE REQUIRED.

(A) Where single-use restroom facilities are permitted by the law, such facilities shall have gender-neutral signage no later than the sixtieth (60) day following the effective date of this ordinance. [1] New facilities shall comply upon opening for public use.

(B) Gender-neutral signage may include any one of the following:

B. All ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

C. This ordinance shall be part of the Jersey City Code as though codified and fully set forth therein. The City Clerk shall have this ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Jersey City Code.

D. This ordinance shall take effect at the time and in the manner provided by law.

E. The City Clerk and Corporation Counsel be and they are hereby authorized and directed to change any chapter numbers, article numbers and section numbers in the event that the codification of this ordinance reveals

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM



Business Administrator



Corporation Counsel

An Ordinance of the City of Jersey City Supplementing Chapter 131 (Construction Codes, Uniform) Adding Article II Requiring Gender Neutral Bathroom Signage for Single-user restrooms.

that there is a conflict between those numbers and the existing code, in order to avoid confusion and possible accidental repeal of existing provisions.

NOTE: All material is new; therefore underlining has been omitted. For purposes of advertising only, new matter is indicated by bold face and repealed matter by italic.

[1] (1)In accordance to National Standard Plumbing Code, in occupancies serving 15 or fewer people, one toilet facility, designed for use by no more than one person at a time, shall be permitted for use by both sexes.

(2)In business occupancies with a total floor area of 1500 square feet or less, one toilet facility, designed for use by no more than one person at a time, shall satisfy the requirements for serving customers and employees of both sexes.

(3)In mercantile occupancies with a net occupiable floor area of 1500 square feet or less that is accessible to customers, one toilet facility designed for use by no more than one person at a time shall satisfy the requirements for serving customers and employees of both sexes.

An Ordinance of the City of Jersey City Supplementing Chapter 131 (Construction Codes, Uniform) Adding Article II Requiring Gender Neutral Bathroom Signage for Single-user restrooms.

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE ON INTRODUCTION – Jun 16 2021						
RIDLEY	AYE	SALEH	AYE	LAVARRO	AYE	9-0
PRINZ-AREY	AYE	SOLOMON	AYE	RIVERA	AYE	
BOGGIANO	AYE	ROBINSON	AYE	WATTERMAN, PRES	AYE	

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING – Jun 30 2021						
RIDLEY	AYE	SALEH		LAVARRO	AYE	8-0
PRINZ-AREY	AYE	SOLOMON	AYE	RIVERA	AYE	
BOGGIANO	AYE	ROBINSON	AYE	WATTERMAN, PRES.	ABSENT	

SPEAKERS:

Yvonne Balcer, Wylie Tene, Sedrick Giacobe, Gary Spingarn, Laurie Warm, Jeanne Daly, Danielle Freire, Stehen Stracquatano and Carolyn Levine

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE ON AMENDMENTS, IF ANY –						
RIDLEY		SALEH		LAVARRO		
PRINZ-AREY		SOLOMON		RIVERA		
BOGGIANO		ROBINSON		WATTERMAN, PRES.		

RECORD OF FINAL COUNCIL VOTE – Jun 30 2021						
RIDLEY	AYE	SALEH	AYE	LAVARRO	AYE	8-0
PRINZ-AREY	AYE	SOLOMON	AYE	RIVERA	AYE	
BOGGIANO	AYE	ROBINSON	AYE	WATTERMAN, PRES.	ABSENT	

Adopted on first reading of the Council of Jersey City, N.J. on **Jun 16 2021**

Adopted on second and final reading after hearing on **Jun 30 2021**

This is to certify that the foregoing Ordinance was adopted by the Municipal Council at its meeting on Jun 30 2021



City Clerk



Joyce E. Watterman, President of Council
Approved: Jun 30 2021



Steven M. Fulop, Mayor
Date to Mayor: Jul 1 2021
Approved: Jul 1 2021

Ord. 21-041

An Ordinance of the City of Jersey City Supplementing Chapter 131 (Construction Codes, Uniform) Adding Article II Requiring Gender Neutral Bathroom Signage for Single-user restrooms.

FACT SHEET -

This summary sheet is to be attached to the front of any ordinance that is submitted for Council consideration. Incomplete or vague fact sheets will be returned with the ordinance.

Project Manager

Laura Bustamante, Council Aide - Ward E	201-547-5283	lbustamante@jcnj.org
Division		

Note: Project Manager must be available by phone during agenda meeting (Wednesday prior to council meeting @ 1:00 p.m.)

Purpose

Ordinance changing the construction code to make all single-use bathrooms gender-neutral

Cost (Identify all sources and amounts)

0

Contract term (include all)

Approved by
John Metro, Acting Business Administrator

Status:
Approved - Jun 09 2021