

PROHIBITIONS ON CARRYING FIREARMS IN CITY BUILDINGS AND PARKS FAQs

What does the ordinance do?

- The proposed ordinance would restrict the concealed carrying of firearms within any building or portion of a building that is owned by the city, leased by the city, or leased to the city. It would also restrict the concealed carrying of firearms within City parks and park facilities.

Why is this ordinance being proposed?

- Restricting concealed carrying of firearms in city facilities and parks is part of Mayor Hancock's 2022 Public Safety Action Plan. A copy of the plan can be found [here](#).
- This is a policy that was previously in place in city facilities, but was repealed due to changes in state law. However, additional state law changes in 2021 allow Denver to reinstate this policy.

How would these provisions change existing Denver laws?

- Open and concealed carry of weapons is currently prohibited in the City and County of Denver, with a few exceptions. This bill eliminates some of the exceptions to the prohibition on concealed carry of firearms within city facilities and parks.
- In addition, localities were previously required by state law to install metal detectors within buildings that prohibited the concealed carrying of firearms. Due to a change in state law last year, the City is no longer required to install metal detectors to enforce this prohibition. Instead, the City will notify the public that the carrying of firearms is prohibited through posted signage at affected locations.

Who will be exempt from this law?

- Law enforcement officers and military personnel
- Security guards with a valid Denver license containing a firearm endorsement
- Persons carrying the firearm for use in a legitimate sporting activity such as events during the National Western Stock Show within National Western Center buildings
- Persons with valid authorization while at DPD and DSD shooting ranges
- Persons carrying a firearm while travelling within a private automobile or other private means of conveyance for the purposes of hunting or lawful protection of the person or their property, or another person or that person's property (weapons other than pistols or revolvers must be unloaded during the transport)

What is the penalty for violating this law?

- No more than \$50 for a first offense.
- No more than \$999 and/or up to 300 days in jail for subsequent offenses.

How do I know if this affects my agency or organization?

- This prohibition applies to all buildings, portions of buildings, and parks owned by, leased by, and leased to the City. If your agency or organization utilizes or operates such a space, concealed carry is prohibited.

How will I know if the carrying of firearms, including concealed firearms, is prohibited in a city building or within a park?

- The City will place signs at the public entrances of buildings and parks notifying the public that the carrying of firearms is prohibited.

Does this apply to city employees, elected officials, and citizens with a concealed carry permit?

- Yes. Individuals who do not meet one of the listed exemptions above are not permitted to carry a concealed firearm or other weapon in the designated spaces, even if they have a concealed carry permit.

How does this affect city departments located in the Denver Post Building?

- The bill applies to portions of buildings, meaning the prohibition would apply in those areas of the building where the City owns or leases the space.

Are metal detectors required to enforce this law?

- No. Concealed carry is prohibited in the areas described in the bill even if there are no metal detectors in those areas.

Can I provide storage lockers for individuals who may have a concealed carry permit to store their gun while they are on the city-owned or leased property?

- The provision of gun lockers is not required, but may be permitted.

How will I enforce violations of the ordinance?

- As with any other potential crime, supervisors and managers should report suspicious activity to Denver Police Department and/or any licensed security guards providing security services at the location and maintain situational awareness.
- Staff and volunteers are never expected to put themselves in harm's way or to confiscate any weapons.

Does this ordinance impact areas outside of Denver?

- This ordinance applies to all City parks including mountain parks and facilities.