
Data and informational questions:

- Is there a list of the facilities that the city owns, leases from a third party, or leases to a third party?
 - Yes. The Dept. of Finance has provided the **attached list of city facilities** where this ordinance would apply.
 - Please note that there are some facilities that the public may consider a city facility (such as Denver Water or Denver Health) that are not city entities and whose spaces are not owned or leased by the city. Such locations would not be subject to this bill; however, those entities are free to enact their own policies should they wish to limit the carrying of weapons in their facilities. The CAO understands that a comprehensive strategy makes compliance easier for the public, so we are engaged in ongoing conversations with the entities interested in this bill.
- Is there OSHA data to support a claim that restricting firearms in workplace buildings reduces the risk of harm to employees?
 - Our office has not found any national OSHA data addressing the correlation between firearms in the workplace and risk of harm.
 - However, certain warning indicators of potential workplace violence have been identified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime, Profiling and Behavioral Assessment Unit in its analysis of past incidents of workplace violence. One of these indicators is bringing a firearm into the workplace (when not required as part of job duties).
 - References to these indicators have been published in federal guidebooks like this [USDA Handbook to prevent Workplace Violence](#) and this [OMP Violence in the Workplace Guide for Agency Planners](#), both shared on the OSHA website.
- Is there data to support a claim that fewer firearms either increases or decreases the safety of the general public?
 - Evidence from at least 14 academic studies suggest that allowing citizens the right to carry guns outside the home leads [to increases in violent crime of 13-15 percent](#).
 - One NIH study found that restricting the ability to carry concealed weapons was associated with a [5.79% reduction in workplace homicide rates](#).
- Is there data regarding the number of crimes committed with firearms subject to concealed carry permits, including suicides?
 - In Denver: We have requested Denver data from DPD and will provide it if/when such data is available.
 - Nationally: Roughly [100,000 firearms per year are lost or stolen](#) from permit holders carrying guns outside the home.
 - Nationally: In 2020, [54% of all gun-related deaths in the U.S. were suicides](#) (24,292), while 43% were murders (19,384), according to the CDC.
- Is there data indicating the number of firearms stolen from vehicles in Denver and/or the number of crimes committed with firearms stolen from vehicles in Denver?
 - We have requested this data from DPD and will provide it if/when such data is available.
- Is there demographic data showing trends around who is obtaining concealed carry permits in the last decade?
 - We have requested this data from DPD and will provide it if/when such data is available.

Questions about terminology in the bill:

- When we use the phrase “on-duty” in reference to members of the U.S. armed forces, is that synonymous with “active duty” or is there a different meaning of “on-duty” in this context?
 - The intent is to include active-duty military acting in performance of their duties.
 - The bill text has been amended to reflect this vernacular.
 - The bill provides an affirmative defense for persons wearing, carrying, or transporting a firearm “in aid of the civil power when thereto legally summoned.” What does this phrase mean, where does it come from, and what constitutes proof of this affirmative defense? Do we have examples of this affirmative defense being used? *See page 2, lines 30-31 of the bill.*
 - This phrase comes directly from Art. 2, § 13 of the Colorado Constitution: *The right of no person to keep and bear arms in defense of his home, person and property, or in aid of the civil power when thereto legally summoned, shall be called in question; but nothing herein contained shall be construed to justify the practice of carrying concealed weapons.*
 - Generally, this language is understood to refer to instances where the state enlists a citizen militia. This is not an event that has taken place in Colorado, and as such, there is not caselaw discussing a defendant’s use of this affirmative defense.
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Questions about Denver’s current state:

- Concealed carry of firearms is already prohibited in certain places within the city. What are those places?
 - State and federal law already prohibit concealed carry in certain locations like schools, federal buildings, state buildings that screen for weapons, post offices, Denver International Airport, etc.
 - In addition, the following locations prohibit concealed carry:
 - City and County Building
 - Wellington Webb Building
 - Lindsey-Flanigan Courthouse
 - Van-Cise Detention Center
 - Minoru Yasui Building
 - Police Administration Building
 - Elections Building (former Permit Building)
- Why is concealed carry of a firearm already prohibited in those locations?
 - Local jurisdictions may prohibit the carrying of weapons in any location that has metal detectors installed. Each of these locations already have metal detectors on the premises.
- What are Denver residents who own a gun (ex: a revolver) currently allowed to do if they do not have a concealed carry permit?
 - A Denver resident who owns a revolver is allowed to have the revolver in their home as long as the revolver has a valid serial number. That resident may not open or concealed carry the weapon outside of their home unless they are transporting the revolver for safety or hunting purposes as described in D.R.M.C. 38-118(c)(4).

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- Certain affirmative defenses are available for the open carry of a firearm, including transportation of the weapon for purposes of repair, lawful exhibition or sale, moving from one residence to another, legitimate sporting activities, or in aid of the civil power when thereto legally summoned. See D.R.M.C. 28-118(e)(2) for more detailed language.
- Law enforcement officers and individuals acting with valid authorization from the city are permitted to carry firearms in line with the duties and policies of their employment.
- How does the city currently handle law violations that take place in parks outside of city and county limits? Do we need to adjust any policies or agreements with other jurisdictions to enforce this law if it passes?
 - Potential and actual violations of this law would be handled the same way any other violation is currently handled because it is currently illegal to carry weapons in a park unless the person has a concealed carry permit. The city would not need to enter into any new agreements or adjust any existing policies or IGAs.
- What is the current process for obtaining a concealed carry permit in Denver?
 - DPD has previously provided the **attached informative slide deck** on the concealed carry permitting process.

Questions about applicability and implementation:

- What will the cost of implementation be? Specifically, what will it cost to post signage?
 - We anticipate that the cost of implementation will be moderate. As the city provides standard signage for city closures and throughout the pandemic that agencies can print and post in internal buildings, the CAO is happy to advise General Services on some standard signage that agencies and organizations can use.
 - Further, we've spoken to General Services and Parks to discuss the cost of replacing or creating outdoor signs. Some of those can be low-cost, such as the signs the city posts on fences when a park is closed for maintenance or restoration, or they can be more permanent for an estimated cost of approximately \$60 a sign.
 - CAO plans to plug into the phased approach that DPR already has planned in the coming years to assess and replace signage in parks facilities. The CAO will be available to advise DPR and other agencies on whether the language on existing signage is compliant with the new law and if new signs are needed, the appropriate language that should be included.
- How are unarmed city employees or volunteers expected to handle a suspected violation of this ordinance?
 - As with any other suspected violation of the D.R.M.C., park rangers, employees, supervisors, managers, and volunteers are never expected to put themselves in harm's way, or to enforce a weapons violation.
 - Individuals in these roles are advised to maintain situational awareness and report any suspicious behavior to supervisors and DPD representatives according to city and agency policy.
 - These individuals will also be provided with training to help them educate city facility employees and visitors, report suspected violations, and keep themselves safe in the event of an emergency.
- How does the city plan to mitigate racial bias in the enforcement of this law?

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- We know that implicit and racial bias in enforcement is unfortunately something that happens right now. However, we have no data to support a finding that this policy change will exacerbate racial bias in enforcement. This bill does not create any new restrictions on the carrying of a concealed weapon – it simply removes the only existing exemption in place for citizens to carry a concealed firearm into certain locations in the city.
- We do appreciate these concerns, though. When our office begins implementing training for enforcement agencies, we will think through how racial bias may impact enforcement and strategies to combat such bias, if it exists.