

ORDINANCE NO. 740

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN, MINNESOTA
AMENDING SECTION 7.02 OF THE CITY CHARTER
TO AUTHORIZE COLLECTION OF CIVIL PENALTIES THROUGH ASSESSMENT**

WHEREAS, the Charter Commission of the City of Austin has recommended by unanimous vote the Amendment to the City Charter of the City of Austin described herein by Ordinance as provided in Minnesota Statutes § 410.12, subd. 7, and

WHEREAS, said the City Council has held a public hearing on the recommended Amendment to the City Charter of the City of Austin described herein as required by said statute; and

WHEREAS, the Council has considered the recommended Amendment to the City Charter of the City of Austin and has determined by unanimous vote that said Amendment serves the interests of the citizens of Austin; and

THE COUNCIL now does ordain:

Section 7.02 of the City Charter for the City of Austin, Minnesota is amended as follows (new language underlined):

Section 7.02 ASSESSMENTS FOR SERVICES AND CIVIL PENALTIES.

The council may provide by ordinance that the costs of city services to streets, sidewalks, or other public or private property may be assessed against property benefitted and collected in the same manner as special assessments.

The council shall establish by ordinance a procedure for imposing an administrative penalty for violations of the City Code or a City ordinance. The procedure must provide that any party charged with an administrative penalty will receive notice of a violation and an opportunity to be heard by a neutral party, which may be the council.

The council may provide by ordinance that civil penalties the city imposes as a result of property-related violations be assessed against property which was the subject matter, or related to the subject matter, of the penalties, or property which was the location of an activity, proposed use, delivery of city service, or other circumstances which resulted in the penalties. The ordinance must provide that owner of the property, as reflected on the official tax records, against which the penalty is to be assessed be given notice and an opportunity to voluntarily pay the penalties without being assessed. The ordinance must also require the city to give notice and opportunity to be heard to the property owner listed on the official tax records before the assessments are imposed. The assessments must be collected in the same manner as special assessments.

Passed by a vote of yeas and nays this 17th day of November, 2025.

YEAS 7

NAYS 0

APPROVED:

Stephen M. King, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brianne D Wolf, City Clerk

This ordinance was introduced on November 17, 2025; approved on November 17, 2025; was published in the Austin Daily Herald on November 22, 2025, and becomes effective February 20, 2026.