

Massage Industry Proposed Municipal Code Changes

The San Diego Police Department (Department) is proposing changes to the San Diego Municipal Code (Municipal Code) and the fees related to the massage industry. If approved by City Council, these changes and fees would take effect on January 1, 2020.

The proposed changes to the Municipal Code include:

- Adding a new type of massage establishment police permit - sole practitioner massage establishment – for self-employed massage therapists.
- Requiring all massage establishments and sole practitioner massage establishments to obtain and maintain a police permit to operate.
- Denying police permits for 2 years at locations where the permit has been revoked.
- Prohibiting massage establishments from being used for residential purposes.
- Prohibiting massage establishments from having their exterior doors locked during business hours, except in certain circumstances.
- Sanitation, cleanliness, and various operating requirements.
- Regulating attire worn by massage therapists.
- Requiring all massage establishments to comply with California Civil Code 52.6 regarding slavery and human trafficking posting.

The Department will present these amendments to the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee on October 23, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. This hearing is open to the public and will take place at:

City Administration Building
202 C. Street
12th floor
San Diego, CA 92101

If you would like to view this event, you can do so through the City’s live streaming broadcast available on the City of San Diego’s website.

www.sandiego.gov

In addition to the Municipal Code amendments, the Department is proposing new annual fees for massage establishments and sole practitioner massage establishments. The proposed fees are detailed below.

Fee Title	Permit Frequency	Existing Fee	Proposed Fee	Permit Fee Diff.
Business Permit Application/New Fee	Per Application	\$59	N/A	N/A
Business Permit Application/Renewal Fee	Per Application	\$54	N/A	N/A
Massage Establishment	Per Year	\$2,042	\$720	-\$1,322
Sole Practitioner Massage Establishment	Per Year	N/A	\$124	N/A

Note: The applicable Business Permit Application fee (New or Renewal) is required in addition to the massage establishment or sole practitioner massage establishment fee.

The Business Permit Application fees include the respective Administrative fee from the City Treasurer, the Police Department's Investigative fee of \$15.00, and Application Processing Fee of \$31.00. The existing Business Permit Application fees were adopted in Fiscal Year 2019 will not be changed at this time.

Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Sergeant Brian Avera directly at (619) 531-2441 or via email: bavera@pd.sandiego.gov