



# CITY OF ARANSAS PASS

## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Item for the City Council Meeting of [3/5/2018]  
Second Reading Item for the City Council Meeting of [3/19/2018]

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018  
To: Gary Edwards, City Manager  
From: Chief Eric Blanchard  
chief@ap-police.com

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Agenda Item #:  
Title: Camping Ordinance Modification

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### **CAPTION:**

Consider and act on modifying Sec. 19.5-4 and repealing Sec. 19.5-19 of the Aransas Pass Code of Ordinances.

### **PURPOSE:**

Improve the quality of life for our residents and visitors on the flatlands of Aransas Pass by cutting down on derelict, nuisance campers.

### **BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

The Aransas Pass Police Department has received several complaints on nuisance campers across these areas. These types of camping subjects tend to deposit their trash directly onto the flatlands area and fail to clean up after themselves. Further, they have a tendency of using the land as their toilet, depositing fecal matter and toiletries about and creating obnoxious lingering odors that offend other tourist or visitors, not to mention the prospective health risks that also lurk with this type of refuse discharge onto this beautiful open land.

Unregulated camping of this sort also attracts drug users, thieves, wanted fugitives, and prostitutes to the areas. These folks set up their camp sites and lurk about while crimes

in these areas. These types also threaten the serenity of others who attempt to enjoy recreational activities in the same areas.

A few years back, Aransas Pass began regulating camping along HWY 361 east of the Dale Miller bridge. Unfortunately, that regulation has not been helpful, and some individuals have adapted their nuisance camping activities around the ordinance.

This proposal bans camping completely save for few exceptions.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Sustain the current ordinance or start over.

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

None at this time

**CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:**

NA

**EMERGENCY/NON-EMERGENCY:**

Not an emergency.

**DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:**

Code enforcement,  
Police Department

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends adoption of this ordinance.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Attached proposed camping ordinance modification.