

CITY OF SPOKANE
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

ADMIN 0325-18-1
LGL 2004-0021

TITLE: STANDARDIZED FORMATS AND UNIFORM PROCEDURES FOR ADOPTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND PUBLIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

EFFECTIVE DATE: JULY 1, 2004

REVISION EFFECTIVE DATE: December 3, 2018 (Replaces ADMIN 0325-05-2 and ADMIN 0325-17-01)

1.0 GENERAL

1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish standardized formats and uniform procedures for the adoption and maintenance of administrative policies and procedures, departmental policies and procedures, executive orders, and public rules and regulations.

1.2 TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1.0 GENERAL
- 2.0 DEPARTMENTS/DIVISIONS AFFECTED
- 3.0 REFERENCES
- 4.0 DEFINITIONS
- 5.0 POLICY
- 6.0 PROCEDURE
- 7.0 RESPONSIBILITIES
- 8.0 APPENDICES

2.0 DEPARTMENTS/DIVISIONS AFFECTED

Except as otherwise provided, this policy shall apply to all City departments and divisions. This policy and procedure shall not apply to departmental policies and procedures initiated and adopted by the City Council, Civil Service Commission, Library Board, and Park Board. Nor shall this policy and procedure apply to policies and procedures established and maintained by the City of Spokane Fire and Police Departments relating to firefighting/EMS and/or law enforcement.

3.0 REFERENCES

None.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

- 4.1 "Administrative Policies and Procedures" are used by City departments to inform other departments and staff of policies / procedures for the direction and management of Citywide operations.
- 4.2 "Departmental Policies and Procedures" are used to inform and provide direction for internal departmental management and operation of City departments. They affect primarily or exclusively single departments or divisions.
- 4.3 "Executive Orders" are issued from time to time formalizing specific mayor / city administrator decisions.
- 4.4 "Public Rules and Regulations" as required by the Spokane Municipal Code, are any department order, directive or regulation of general applicability, and (1) the violation of which subjects a person to a penalty; or (2) which subject a person to a payment of a fee; or (3) which establish, alter, or revoke any procedure, practice or requirement relating to departmental hearings; or (4) which establish, alter, or revoke any qualifications or standards for the issuance, suspension or revocation of licenses to pursue any commercial activity, trade or profession as may be otherwise defined by the Spokane Municipal Code.

5.0 POLICY

- 5.1 Except as provided in section 2.0 above, all administrative policies and procedures, departmental policies and procedures, executive orders, and public rules and regulations shall be developed and maintained in a standardized fashion using the format in the attached standardized templates. Note: To allow for frequent review, easy modification, and effective, best practice management in a changing and evolving business environment, procedures may be set forth in separate procedural manuals. Procedures manuals are not required to follow the standardized template format; however, the manuals shall be written in a consistent style and format.

5.2 Approval Process for Policies and Procedures

- 5.2.1 **Administrative Policies and Procedures.** Administrative policies and procedures may be initiated by department directors, division directors or the Mayor / City Administrator. Copies of proposed policies and procedures shall be provided to all affected departments for review and comment for at least a two-week period prior to final adoption, unless directed otherwise by the Mayor or City Administrator. Documentation of the notification to other departments shall be attached to any policy or procedure submitted for final adoption. Unless otherwise provided, policies and procedures shall be effective immediately after being signed by the Mayor or City Administrator. Unless otherwise stated, amendments and repeals of existing policies and procedures shall follow the same process as the adoption of a new policy or procedure. Administrative policies and procedures by the City Council, Civil Service Commission, Library Board and Park Board are signed by the authorized representative of the board / commission.
- 5.3.2 **Departmental Policies and Procedures.** Departmental policies and procedures may be initiated by department directors or division directors. If other departments will be affected by the policy, copies of proposed department policies and procedures shall be provided to all affected departments for a two-week review and comment period prior to final adoption. Documentation of the notification to other departments shall be attached to any policy or procedure submitted for final adoption. Policies and procedures initiated by departments shall have prior approval of the division director. Unless otherwise provided, department policies and procedures shall be effective immediately after being signed by the department director or division director.
- 5.3.3 **Executive Orders.** Executive orders are initiated by the Mayor or City Administrator. They are effective immediately after signature by the Mayor or City Administrator unless otherwise stated.
- 5.3.4. **Public Rules and Regulations.** Public rules and regulations may be initiated by department directors, division directors or

the Mayor / City Administrator. It is anticipated, however, that most public rules and regulations will be adopted by Ordinance. Copies of proposed rules and regulations shall be provided to all departments for review and comment for at least a two-week period prior to final adoption. Documentation of the notification to the departments shall be attached to any rule or regulation submitted for final adoption. In addition to the internal review, the public shall be given the opportunity to comment on all proposed rules and regulations. The public may send written comments to the department responsible for initiating the rule or regulation, and/or provide verbal comment at a scheduled public hearing. Rules and regulations are effective 30 days after being signed by the Mayor or City Administrator unless otherwise stated. Amendments and repeals of existing rules and regulations shall follow the same process as the adoption of a new rule or regulation. Public rules and regulations by the Library Board and the Park Board are signed by the authorized representatives of the boards.

5.3.5 In those cases deemed appropriate by the Mayor or City Administrator, any policy, procedure, rule or regulation may be referred to a "stakeholder committee" for public review or comment. The committee should be composed of a representative sample of affected persons or entities.

5.4 Publication

5.4.1 Except as otherwise provided, or unless otherwise protected from public disclosure by State or Federal Law, adopted administrative policies and procedures, executive orders, and public rules and regulations shall be published in the official gazette. Notices of adopted departmental policies and procedures shall be published in the official gazette.

5.4.2 The City Clerk shall be responsible for the scope and manner of electronic publication of adopted administrative policies and procedures, executive orders and public rules and regulations on the City's internet web page.

5.5 The administration and maintenance of the City's policy and procedure system is centralized in the office of the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall maintain the original copy of administrative policies and procedures, executive orders and public rules and regulations. The Clerk shall provide all departments with a copy of the adopted administrative policy and procedure, executive order, or public rule

or regulation. Unless otherwise protected from public disclosure by State or Federal law, the original copy of any departmental policies and procedures shall be maintained in the initiating department with a copy filed with the City Clerk. The Clerk shall also maintain an index of all current policies, procedures, executive orders, rules and regulations organized by department.

6.0 PROCEDURE

- 6.1 Determine what type of document is to be written. (Reference the information contained under sections 4.0 and 5.0.)
- 6.2 ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES / DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES / PUBLIC RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Use the following numbered and capitalized section headings and standards:

TITLE: Provide a brief descriptive title for the document. The title should provide readers with a clear overview of what the directive is meant to convey. Avoid titles that label rather than describe the document. The title should distinguish it from others which may be similar.

For example:

(Not Clear) Public Disclosure
(Clear) Handling Requests for Disclosure of Public Records

EFFECTIVE DATE. For policies of specific duration, indicate the beginning and ending dates of the policy's effect. For policies of indeterminate duration, leave blank. The City Clerk will add the effective date for administrative policies and public rules, unless otherwise stated in the document.

- 1.0 **GENERAL.** Provide a brief description of the purpose of the document in subsection 1.1. List the table of contents in subsection 1.2.
- 2.0 **DEPARTMENTS / DIVISIONS AFFECTED.** If applicable to all departments, state "Applicable to all departments". If applicable to most departments, state "Applicable to all departments, except _____". If applicable to only a few

departments or one department, list only the department(s) which are affected.

- 3.0 REFERENCES. Provide a list of applicable laws, regulations, ordinances, charter or other legal or managerial authority for the document.
- 4.0 DEFINITIONS. Provide a list, beginning with 4.1, which defines all terms, abbreviations and acronyms necessary for a complete understanding of the document.
- 5.0 POLICIES. Policies should set forth the general principles or plan to be followed in specific operations or management.

Provide a list, beginning with 5.1, which clearly describes all decisions that management has made regarding the purpose of the document.

A primary purpose of writing policies is to save management from re-deciding issues that are already resolved. Another basic function of a written policy is to ensure consistency, predictability, and a proper foundation for rules and procedures. Policies answer the question "What should be done?" For a clean, active document, avoid too much information and philosophy on "why" policies are being done.

- 6.0 PROCEDURES. Procedures provide information and procedural instructions for implementation of the policy or provide information on where any procedural documents may be found.
- 7.0 RESPONSIBILITIES. Provide a list, beginning with 7.1, of responsibilities, duties, or authorities of affected parties, grouped by agency. The responsibilities section allows affected persons quick access to their part of responsibilities in a given policy.
- 8.0 APPENDICES. Use this section for including procedural manuals and/or information that does not fit into the other sections for reasons of format, size, etc. List appendices and titles starting with 8.1.

6.3 EXECUTIVE ORDERS.

Use the following sections and standards for writing executive orders:

TITLE: Provide a brief descriptive title for the document. The title should provide readers with a clear overview of what the directive is meant to convey. Avoid titles that label rather than describe the document. The title should distinguish it from others that may be similar.

EFFECTIVE DATE. Indicate the beginning date of the order's effect.

EXPIRATION DATE: If known, indicate an expiration date. Executive orders that include an expiration date will be removed from the City's website 90 days after expiration.

WHEREAS. Provide, in a series of paragraphs, the reasons and causes for the document. Begin each new paragraph with **WHEREAS**, in capital letters.

NOW, THEREFORE. Provide the body of the document or description of what will be done. Begin the body section with: **NOW, THEREFORE, I**, (mayor's name in capital letters), Mayor, do order that Each following paragraph in the body will start with **FURTHERMORE** (in capitals).

If the document is to be effective only for a specific period of time, event, or set of circumstances, this should be stated in the body as the last statement of the body.

SIGNATURE. This section should not appear on a separate page without some portion of the body of the order appearing on the same page.

7.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 The initiating department is responsible for writing all policies, procedures, rules and regulations. In addition, initiating departments shall be responsible for reviewing policies and procedures to ensure compliance with federal, state and local laws, as well as to ensure they reflect current circumstances and best practices.
- 7.2 The Mayor is responsible for writing all executive orders.

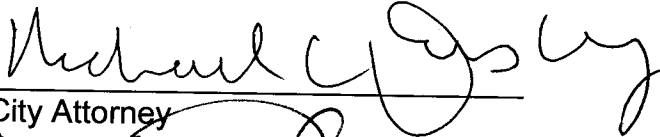
7.3 The City Attorney's Office is responsible for circulating policies, procedures, and rules and regulations to departments for review and comment, unless other arrangements have been made with the initiating department.

7.4 The City Clerk is responsible for assigning document code numbers to all policies and procedures, executive orders, and public rules and regulations, in addition to the responsibilities listed under sections 5.4 and 5.5.

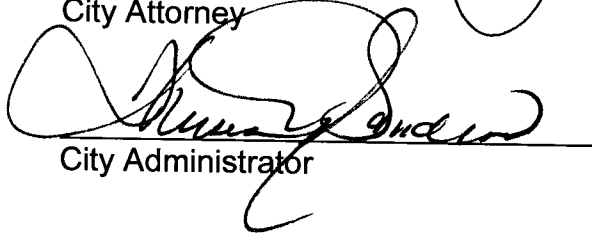
8.0 APPENDICES

- Template - Administrative Policy and Procedure
- Template - Department Policy and Procedure
- Template - Executive Order

Approved by:



City Attorney



City Administrator

12/3/2013
Date

CITY OF SPOKANE
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURE TEMPLATE

CITY OF SPOKANE ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURE	ADMIN [DEPT #]-[YR]-[#]
TITLE	
EFFECTIVE DATE	
REVISION DATE (IF APPLICABLE)	

1.0 GENERAL

1.1 PURPOSE

1.2 TABLE OF CONTENTS

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2.0 DEPARTMENTS/DIVISIONS AFFECTED

3.0 REFERENCES

4.0 DEFINITIONS

4.1

5.0 POLICY

5.1

6.0 PROCEDURE

6.1

7.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1

8.0 APPENDICES

APPROVED BY:

City Attorney

Division Director

City Administrator

Date

CITY OF SPOKANE
DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE TEMPLATE

CITY OF SPOKANE DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE	DEPT [DEPT #]-[YR]-[#]
TITLE	
EFFECTIVE DATE	
REVISION DATE (IF APPLICABLE)	

1.0 GENERAL

1.1 PURPOSE

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2.0 DEPARTMENTS/DIVISIONS AFFECTED

3.0 REFERENCES

4.0 DEFINITIONS

4.1

5.0 POLICY

5.1

6.0 PROCEDURE

6.1

7.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1

8.0 APPENDICES

APPROVED BY:

City Attorney

Division or Department Director

CITY OF SPOKANE
EXECUTIVE ORDER TEMPLATE

CITY OF SPOKANE EXECUTIVE ORDER	EO [YR]-[#]
TITLE EFFECTIVE DATE REVISION DATE (IF APPLICABLE)	

WHEREAS,

WHEREAS,

WHEREAS,

[use as many as needed]

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____, Mayor, do hereby order and direct:

Mayor

Date