



Memorandum

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TO: Allen Joines, Mayor
Denise Adams, Mayor Pro Tempore
Members of City Council

FROM: Takeisha R. Redd, Assistant City Attorney

DATE: October 13, 2023

SUBJECT: Changes to WSTA Code of Conduct

CC: Patrice Toney, Interim City Manager
Angela I. Carmon, City Attorney

During the October 10, 2023, Public Works Committee meeting, Council Member Mundy indicated that he had received comments from some constituents regarding some of the wording using in the revised WSTA Code of Conduct. City staff agreed to review the language in the revised Code of Conduct to ensure that the expectations were clearly expressed and rooted in existing law. City Staff revised the WSTA Code of Conduct as part of the City's comprehensive strategy to address safety concerns at the Clark Campbell Transit Center. Other safety measures taken as a part of the City's strategy to address safety concerns at the Transportation Center include measures such as the addition of additional security officers and metal detectors, and restricting access to the non-public sections of the Transportation Center by installing electronic locks.

The largest change to the Code of Conduct consisted of combining the Transit Center rules, fixed-route and paratransit rules, and ban policy into one comprehensive document. Creating one comprehensive document ensures that all relevant policies are easily accessible to the security contractors and transit management staff. The Transportation Center Code of Conduct was drafting using the language found in NCGS §14-275.1 as a foundation. NCGS 14-275.1, entitled Disorderly Conduct at Bus or Railroad Station or Airport. provides:

Any person shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor, if such person while at, or upon the premises of, (1) Any bus station, depot or terminal, or (2) Any railroad passenger station, depot or terminal, or (3) Any airport or air terminal used by any common carrier, or (4) Any airport or air terminal owned or leased, in whole or in part, by any county, municipality or other political subdivision of the State, or privately owned airport shall (1) Engage in disorderly conduct, or (2) Use vulgar, obscene or profane language, or (3) On any one occasion, without having necessary business there, loiter and loaf upon the premises after being requested to leave by any peace officer or by any person lawfully in charge of such premises.

Revisions to the Code of Conduct were made to provide examples of disruptive behaviors that affect the operation of the transit system and enjoyment of the

Transit Center guests and the consequences that could be imposed as a result. The proposed revisions to the Code of Conduct are clearly written, consistent with existing law, and designed to ensure that passengers, patrons, riders, and guests at the Transportation Center have a safe and positive experience.

During my review of the revised Code of Conduct, I updated the ban policy to add that a recipient of a less than 30-day ban from the Transit Center, paratransit or fixed-route service, may contest their short-term ban by notifying the Director of the Winston-Salem Department of Transportation or his/her designee in writing of their desire to do so.