

MUNICIPAL COURT MEMORANDUM
#4-2026

DATE: March 23, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members

THROUGH: Heather Geyer, City Manager 

FROM: Jason Loveland, Deputy City Manager 

SUBJECT: CB-2035 – Penalty for Municipal Code Violations

PURPOSE

To consider CB-2035, an ordinance on first reading amending Section 1-1-10 of the Municipal Code. This amendment is intended to align the City's code with state law regarding the maximum criminal penalties that can be imposed for certain violations.

BACKGROUND

In December 2025, the Colorado Supreme Court issued a decision establishing that when a municipal ordinance and a state statute prohibit the same conduct, the penalties imposed by a municipality may not exceed those established by state law for the same offense.

As a result of this ruling, all municipalities, including home rule jurisdictions, are required to review their existing codes to determine whether any local penalties exceed those authorized by state law. Any identified discrepancies must be corrected.

On Jan. 30, 2026, City Attorney Corey Hoffmann provided a memorandum to City Council outlining the Colorado Supreme Court decision and its implications for the City. It is recommended that Section 1-1-10 of the Municipal Code be amended to align the City's maximum penalties with those permitted under state law.

BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS

If CB-2035 is approved on first reading, a public hearing and second reading of the proposed ordinance will be scheduled for April 13, 2026.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of CB-2035 on first reading.

STAFF REFERENCE

If Council members have any questions, please contact Jason Loveland, Deputy City Manager, at jloveland@northglenn.org or 303.450.8817

CB-2035 – Penalty for Municipal Code Violations

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR LEIGHTY

COUNCIL MEMBER'S BILL

ORDINANCE NO.

No. CB-2035
Series of 2026

Series of 2026

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PENALTY PROVISION OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALIGN WITH STATE LAW REGARDING THE MAXIMUM CRIMINAL PENALTY THAT CAN BE IMPOSED FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS OF THE NORTHGLENN MUNICIPAL CODE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. Section 1-1-10 of the Northglenn Municipal Code is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a new Subsection (a)(4) to read as follows:

Section 1-1-10. General Penalty -- Continuing Violations.

(a) Whenever by any ordinance of the City of Northglenn any act is prohibited or declared to be unlawful or an offense, or a misdemeanor, or the doing of any act is required, or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful or an offense, or a misdemeanor:

* * *

(4) ANY PENALTIES IMPOSED BY THIS CODE MAY NOT EXCEED THE MAXIMUM PENALTIES ESTABLISHED BY SECTIONS C.R.S. § 18-1.3-501(1)(A.5) AND C.R.S. § 18-1.3-503(1.5), OR ANY SUCH APPLICABLE LIMITATION OTHERWISE SET BY STATE LAW.

* * *

INTRODUCED, READ AND ORDERED POSTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

SHANNON LUKEMAN-HIROMASA
Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

JOHANNA SMALL, MMC
City Clerk

PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING this ____ day of _____,
2026.

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor

ATTEST:

JOHANNA SMALL, MMC
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

COREY Y. HOFFMANN
City Attorney