

Memorandum



TO: Mayor Manier and City Council
FROM: Ray Forsythe, City Administrator *RPF*
DATE: August 9, 2019
SUBJECT: Video Gaming

The State Legislature approved a large gaming bill expansion which included an increase to local Video Gaming. In addition to the minim wager and maximum jackpot amounts, the legislation allowed for the addition of 1 machine per location for a total of 6 machines and a new category for Large Truck Stops which would allow up to 10 terminals. The legislation provides that each municipality would have the authority to regulate the number of machines per location. Washington currently has a limit of 5 machines per location and a maximum number of total terminals at 40. There are currently 37 machines in operation with 6 locations that have 5 terminals, one location has 4 and one location has 3.

No currently licensed facility has formally requested an additional machine, however, a few have indicated to City Council Members that they would be interested in adding the 6th machine. The Committee took no position on expanding the local options and suggested that the Committee of the Whole be updated on the legislation and a broader discussion could take place.

The City Council has the authority to keep the current Ordinance in place limiting the total number of terminals at 5; amend the ordinance to allow up to 6 terminals per location and increase the total number of terminals. An Amendment to the Ordinance could be considered if a formal request is made to the City or the Council can direct staff to make any recommended changes in anticipation of a request. Staff is seeking direction from the City Council on this matter.