

WEAPONS

Definitions

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

“Air gun” means any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile through a barrel by using the energy or force generated by the release of a spring or compressed gases. The term “air gun” includes, but is not limited to: BB guns, pellet guns, air pistols, and air rifles.

“Bow and Arrows” includes bow and arrows, crossbows, compound bows, and any other device for the shooting of bolts or arrows capable of piercing a target.

“Explosive weapon” Any explosive or incendiary bomb, grenade, rocket, cannon, or mine that is designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage, or for the principal purpose of causing such a loud report as to cause undue public alarm or terror, and includes a device designed, made, or adapted for delivery or shooting of an explosive weapon.

“Firearm” Any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile through a barrel by using the energy or force generated by an explosion or burning substance, or any device readily convertible to that use. The term firearm includes, but is not limited to, guns, handguns, machine guns, rifles, shotguns, automatic rifles, revolvers, and pistols.

“Public place” Any place to which the public or a substantial group of the public has access, including, but not limited to, parks, streets, highways, and City Hall,

“Public right-of-way” The area on, below, or above a public roadway, highway, street, public sidewalk, alley, or utility easement in which the city has an interest.

“Zip gun” A device or combination of devices that was not originally a firearm and is adapted to expel a projectile through a smooth-bore or rifled-bore barrel by using the energy generated by an explosion or burning substance.

Discharge of firearm or other weapons

(a) Firearms, explosive weapons and zip guns. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge, fire or shoot any firearm, explosive weapon or zip gun of any kind within the city limits.

(b) Air guns, Bow and Arrows, Slingshots: It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge, fire or shoot air guns, bow and arrows, or slingshots in or across any public place, public right of way or across any property line within the city limits:

(c) Exceptions. This section shall not apply to:

(1) Licensed peace officers, as that term is defined by Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, article 2.12(3), provided that such discharges are made in the course and scope of the peace officer’s official duties;

(2) The use of blank cartridges for a theatrical production, military ceremony, or sporting event that is either sponsored by an educational institution or issued a permit by the City;

(3) Defense of a habitation or vehicle, person or defense of a third party as provided by Texas Penal Code 9.31, 9.32, and 9.33.

(4) Destroying predatory animals on one's own property or with the written permission of the owner of the property or destroying any other animal on one's own property if the animal poses a risk to the safety and health of an individual, as long as any shot discharged does not cross property lines or public right of way and is discharged in conformance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws pertaining to the discharge of firearms.

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