

ORDINANCE NO. 3932

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, WASHINGTON, AMENDING 5.04 BUSINESS LICENSES OF THE MOUNT VERNON MUNICIPAL CODE

- Whereas,** pursuant to RCW 35.90.080, cities are required to adopt mandatory provisions provided from model ordinances developed through the state model ordinance development committee when a city imposes a general business license requirement; and
- Whereas,** the City of Mount Vernon imposes general business license requirements set forth in Chapter 5.04 of the Mount Vernon Municipal Code; and
- Whereas,** the model ordinance mandatory requirements have changed increasing the thresholds for out of city businesses including periodic increases four years later; and
- Whereas,** the model ordinance requires that such mandatory amendments be effective January 1, 2026.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON,
WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. That Section 5.04.030 of the Mount Vernon Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

5.04.030 Business license required – Fee and Posting.

- A. Any person or entity that engages in any business, occupation, home occupation or pursuit, including nonprofit activities, within the city must license that business with the city's business licensing program. To license under the program a person must submit a business license application to the Business Licensing Service and pay the applicable city license fee of \$50.00, all late fees due and the BLS handling fee authorized by RCW 19.02.075 adopted herein by this reference as now or hereafter amended.
- B. For purposes of the license by this chapter, any person or business whose annual value of products, gross proceeds of sales, or gross income of the business in the city is equal to or less than \$2,000 and who does not maintain a place of business within the city shall submit a business license registration. The threshold does not apply to regulatory license requirements or activities that require a specialized permit. There is no fee for a business registration. Beginning January 1, 2026, the threshold amount is \$4,000. The threshold amount will be adjusted every forty-eight months on January 1, by an amount equal to the increase in the Consumer Price Index ("CPI") for "West Urban, All Urban Consumers" (CPI-U) for each 12-month period ending on June 30 as published by the United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics or successor agency. To calculate this adjustment, the current rate will be multiplied by one plus the cumulative four-year (forty-eight month) CPI increase using each 12-month period ending on

June 30 of each prior year, and rounded to the nearest \$100. However, if any of the annual CPI increases are more than five (5) percent, a five (5) percent increase will be used in computing the annual basis and if any of the annual CPI decreased during the forty-eight-month period, a zero (0) percent increase will be used in computing the annual basis.

- C. A business license will be issued to a business that has been approved by the city.
- D. A business license must be posted in a conspicuous location at the physical place of business. In the case of a nonresident business conducting business within the city, the business license must be present at the location business is being conducted.

SECTION 2. Final Ordinance. City staff is hereby directed to complete preparation of the final ordinance, including correction of any typographical or scrivener's error.

SECTION 3. Severability. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid for any reason, or should any portion of this Ordinance be pre-empted by state or federal law or regulation, such decision or pre-emption shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or its application to other persons or circumstances.

SECTION 4. Savings. All ordinances repealed by this ordinance, shall remain in force and effect until the effective date of this ordinance

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect January 1, 2026 and as provided by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of December, 2025.



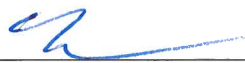
PETER DONOVAN, Mayor

ATTEST BY:



Beck Jensen, City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Kevin Rogerson, City Attorney

Published December 20, 2025

Form 700 375

Business Licensing Service
PO Box 9034
Olympia WA 98507-9034
360-705-6777
dorblspartner@dor.wa.gov

BLS Partner Change Request

Subject to review and acceptance by BLS

BLS Use: PCR #

Date received

Name of local government or State agency licensing program submitting request:

City of Mount Vernon

Contact person name: Doug Volesky

Title: Finance Director

Phone: (360) 336-6241

Email: dougv@mountvernonwa.gov

This request is for (mark all that apply):

☒ Change to existing license endorsement

☒ Change to existing process

☐ Modify existing data reporting

☐ Add new license endorsement

☐ Add new process

☐ Create new data reporting

☒ Other: Business License Model Ordinance updates require changes to city ordinances.

Reason why change is required:

☐ Legislation effective date:

☐ Performance issue

☐ Improvement opportunity

☒ Policy change

☐ Organization change

☐ Other:

Description of issue or request:

(provide additional documentation, screen captures, suggested formats, etc.; if appropriate)

Adopted model threshold update for City Business License Model — increase non-resident (out-of-city) business minimum threshold to \$4,000 effective January 1, 2026.

☒ I have verified and approve this request.

State agency program manager or local government managing authority:

Becky Jensen



Title: City Clerk

Date: 12/18/25

Email: beckyj@mountvernonwa.gov

Phone: (360) 336-6241

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