

PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE REVISION
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RESULTS
FINAL ANALYSIS AND COMPILATION

SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
INTRODUCTION.....	4
BACKGROUND	4
ANALYSIS & COMPILATION OVERVIEW.....	4
Engagement Content	4
A little about you.....	4
Option for a civil citation before a criminal misdemeanor citation.....	5
Appeals process	5
Risk-based structure for civil citation fines.....	6
Methodology, Participation Summary, and Presentation	6
NAVIGATION	7
ANALYSIS AND COMPILATION	8
SUMMARY ANALYSIS.....	8
2-4: Adding Civil Citations to the Enforcement Process	8
Questions	8
Analysis	9
5-6: The Proposed Appeals Process	9
Questions	9
Analysis	9
7-9: Risk-Based Fine structure	9
Questions:	9
Analysis	10
COMPILATION OF RESULTS	11
1. Organization type or license held.....	11
2. Do you see any advantages to keeping the current process with only a criminal penalty (please explain)	13
Word Cloud: Do you see any advantages to keeping the current process with only a criminal penalty?	13
Responses: Do you see any advantages to keeping the current process with only a criminal penalty?.....	14
3. What concerns do you have with adding civil penalties before escalating to criminal penalties?	18

Word Cloud: What concerns do you have with adding civil penalties before escalating to criminal penalties?	18
Responses: What concerns do you have with adding civil penalties before escalating to criminal penalties?	19
4. Please use this space below to share any other thoughts or ideas (adding civil penalties)	23
Word Cloud: Please use this space below to share any other thoughts or ideas (adding civil penalties)	23
Responses: Please use this space below to share any other thoughts or ideas (adding civil penalties)	24
5. What questions or concerns do you have about this proposed appeals process?	28
Word Cloud: What questions or concerns do you have about this proposed appeals process?	28
Responses: What questions or concerns do you have about this proposed appeals process?	29
6. Considering the proposed changes, what suggestions do you have to ensure a fair and equitable process?	31
Word Cloud:	31
Responses: Considering the proposed changes, what suggestions do you have to ensure a fair and equitable process?	32
7. What are the benefits of the risk-based approach to the fine amounts?	35
Word Cloud: What are the benefits of the risk-based approach to the fine amounts?	35
Responses: What are the benefits of the risk-based approach to the fine amounts?	36
8. What are your questions or concerns? (Risk-Based approach)	39
Word Cloud: What are your questions or concerns? (Risk-Based approach)	39
Responses: What are your questions or concerns? (Risk-Based approach)	40
9. What other ideas do you have about how to structure the civil citation fines?	42
Word Cloud: What other ideas do you have about how to structure the civil citation fines?	42
Responses: What other ideas do you have about how to structure the civil citation fines?	43

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

Food establishments, public swimming pools, hotels, manufactured home parks, solid waste haulers and facilities, hazardous waste generators and facilities, and other businesses are regulated by county ordinances, which include a variety of rules. The administrative ordinance sets the rules for enforcement and penalties. Under the current administrative ordinance, the first penalty for breaking the rules is a misdemeanor citation. This includes a fine and is considered a crime. The person who receives the misdemeanor citation then has a criminal record.

Ramsey County is proposing:

- To add a step of enforcement *before* a criminal misdemeanor citation.
- This new step would be a **civil citation**; it includes a fine only and would not be considered a crime nor create a criminal record.

To help refine the proposed changes, stakeholders were asked to provide input and ideas to help shape the county's ordinance enforcement processes, the citation appeals process, and the fine structure for the proposed civil citations. Below is an analysis and compilation of results from the online engagements that began Aug. 10, 2021 and ran through Sept. 6, 2021.

ANALYSIS & COMPILATION OVERVIEW

Engagement Content

Online and mailed engagement opportunities included information about the proposed civil citations, presented directly to stakeholders when they were invited to provide their feedback, as described below.

A little about you...

1. (Warm-up question, online survey only) Describe your organization type or the applicable Ramsey County issued licenses you hold. (Check all that apply)
 - Food Establishment
 - Swimming Pool
 - Lodging Establishment
 - Manufactured Home Park
 - Hazardous Waste Generator
 - Solid Waste Hauler or Facility
 - Hazardous Waste Processing Facility
 - Pre-demolition Contractor
 - Consumer Advocacy Group
 - Temporary Food Event
 - Mobile Food Unit (Food Truck or Trailer)
 - Other (please specify)
 - None of the above

The content about the proposed changes was organized into three topic areas: the option for a civil citation before a criminal misdemeanor citation, the appeals process, and fines.

Option for a civil citation before a criminal misdemeanor citation

This section on the ordinance enforcement process began with information about the differences between civil and criminal citations and an explanation of how civil citations would be used to enforce county ordinance, followed by three questions.

Ramsey County takes multiple steps to help licensees correct violations before giving citations or increasing penalties. If a violation is found during a routine inspection, county staff will:

- Educate licensees and their employees about the rule broken.
- Work with licensees to fix the ordinance violations and conduct up to three follow-up visits to review corrections.
- If corrections are not made, a civil citation would be issued; for dangerous, repeated, or intentional violations, a misdemeanor (criminal) citation may be issued, or further legal action taken by the county.

Citation comparison:

	Misdemeanor Citation (Current)	Civil Citation (Proposed)
Criminal Record	Yes	No
Failure to Pay Fine	Warrant issued for arrest	Sent to bill collections
Possible Jail Time	90 Days*	None
Highest Fine Amount	\$1000*	\$1000**
Appeals Process	Plead "not guilty" and request an appearance in front of a judge in court.	Request a hearing and a neutral hearing officer reviews the case.

*Jail time and fines are set by Minnesota state law for misdemeanor citations.

**Fines for civil citations are set by County Board each year.

2. Do you see any advantages to keeping the current process with only a criminal penalty? (Please explain.)
3. What concerns do you have with adding civil penalties before escalating to criminal penalties?
4. Please use the space below to share any other thoughts or ideas.

Appeals process

This section on the appeals process proposed for civil citations began with information about how someone who receives a citation can request a review of the citation by a hearing officer, followed by two questions.

When a civil citation is issued, the person cited could appeal the citation.

- A civil citation can be appealed within 10 business days by contacting the county department that issued the citation.
- The county will assign the appeal to a hearing officer, who is not a county employee and is obligated to make a neutral decision.
- At the meeting, the hearing officer is provided with information from both sides and decides if an ordinance was violated. If the hearing officer finds that there was no violation, the civil citation and fine are canceled; if it was violated, the civil citation fine must be paid.

The appeals process would accommodate people with disabilities and language needs.

5. What questions or concerns do you have about this proposed appeals process?
6. Considering the proposed changes, what suggestions do you have to ensure a fair and equitable process?

Risk-based structure for civil citation fines

This section on the risk-based fine structure proposed for civil citations began with information about how fines are based on risk, and the minimum and maximum amounts for proposed fines, followed by three questions.

Fines for violations are set by the County Board based on the risk to public health or the environment. Risk is determined by state or federal law and county policies that consider how dangerous something is and how likely it is to cause illness, injury, or environmental damage.

Fines would range from \$100 for a lower-risk violation (such as missing a “no smoking” sign on a building entrance) up to \$1000 for a higher-risk violation (such as keeping a swimming pool open with dangerous amounts of chemicals in the water after being ordered to close the pool).

7. What are the benefits of this risk-based approach to fine amounts?
8. What are your questions or concerns?
9. What other ideas do you have about how to structure the civil citation fines?

Methodology, Participation Summary, and Presentation

Stakeholders were identified by regulated activity group, with an emphasis on identifying and successfully reaching out to small/locally owned license holders and non-native English speakers/writers. Based on regulatory staff’s experience working with these organizations over the years, a straightforward online survey was the primary engagement tool chosen, plus the option to participate in one of three virtual listening sessions with identical content.

To encourage and support participation, all licensees or regulated businesses with an email address on file were invited by, or on behalf of, their Ramsey County inspector. Eleven licensees did not have an address on file and were sent surveys by mail along with a self-addressed stamped envelope. Unique survey response collectors were set up for each group of licensees, and response numbers were actively tracked so staff could do additional outreach as needed. Regulatory staff also identified businesses with potential language barriers; those were contacted directly to determine whether they needed additional support to participate. Two requested materials in their home language and those were provided.

Three listening sessions were held on August 17 at 6pm, August 18 at 2pm, and August 19 at 9am. Information to be presented and questions asked during the listening sessions were identical to the online survey. No stakeholders attended any of these listening sessions.

The summary analysis, detailed analysis, and final compilation consider results from 186 responses to the online survey and one mailed survey. Responses were collected August 10 through September 6, 2021.

In the final compilation that follows the analysis, responses to each question are presented alphabetically and generally remain as written by the contributor or documented by a facilitator. Within the topic areas, some responses were reorganized to better align with the questions asked. Minor edits were made to correct obvious spelling or punctuation errors that affect clarity, remove vulgar language, protect privacy, and change repeated use of all capitalized responses to upper and lower case. If a survey participant copied the same response for multiple questions, in general only the first was retained.

Word clouds (wordart.com) for each question show a frequency distribution of the highest-use words, with some adjustments based on question/response phrasing.

NAVIGATION

Following the summary analysis, the information is organized by the three content areas. Each includes a brief introduction, an analysis, and the compilation of results. The following support reader navigation through this report:

- The table of contents entries above are hyperlinks; click on any of them to jump directly to a specific section
- At the top of each Results section is a navigation box with hyperlinks, as shown at right; click on the links to jump to the next section, return to the previous section, or return to the Table of Contents
- The section name is included in the footer on each page, so readers know where they are in the document

- [Jump to next section](#)
- [Return to previous section](#)
- [Return to Table of Contents](#)

ANALYSIS AND COMPILATION

This section begins with a summary analysis, highlighting themes that emerged from the overall engagement. Following that are analyses of results by the three topic areas within the proposed new ordinance: adding civil citations as an option before criminal citations, the appeals process, and risk-based fines. The remainder of this section presents detailed results by question.

- [Jump to next section](#)
- [Return to Table of Contents](#)

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Some clear themes emerged from the community engagement results:

- Consistent and strong support for the proposed change to add a civil citation before the misdemeanor criminal citation; commonly cited reasons included the following:
 - The civil (non-criminal) enforcement tool better aligns with the nature of the regulations.
 - This approach is more likely to motivate compliance by regulated entities, thus reducing risk to the public.
 - A wider range of enforcement options may increase county education and enforcement efforts.
- A general desire for more information and education about county rules, enforcement processes and potential fine amounts from a civil citation.
- More and clearer opportunities to correct violations before enforcement, and clearer guidance from county staff on how to do that.
- An appeals request timeframe longer than the proposed 10 days.
- Assurance that the appeals hearing officer would be unbiased, knowledgeable about the regulated businesses, and selected with consideration to racial diversity and professional background.

“I see extreme value in giving enforcement agencies a larger toolbox to work from and feel strongly that discretion in this area will increase compliance and do more to protect the Environment”

“I favor the idea of not adding to the courts caseload particularly those matters that could be resolved informally, faster, and less costly and burdensome to the taxpayer.”

Some of these are already addressed by existing county enforcement policies and procedures, while others provide useful guidance to refine the proposed ordinance and improve the county’s regulatory education and outreach processes.

2-4: Adding Civil Citations to the Enforcement Process

Questions

2. Do you see any advantages to keeping the current process with only a criminal penalty? (Please explain.)
3. What concerns do you have with adding civil penalties before escalating to criminal penalties?
4. Please use the space below to share any other thoughts or ideas.

“Maybe not all first time violations should be given the use of a non-criminal option based on severity and repeat offenses.”

Analysis

There was overwhelming support for the proposed addition of a civil citation penalty prior to criminal penalties in most situations. Participants indicated a strong desire for additional education and information on regulations and enforcement processes, correction opportunities for violations, and a number stressed the importance of maintaining a good relationship with county regulatory staff who provide guidance to help the businesses comply.

“I like that you are giving business owners the opportunity to make corrections prior to criminal penalty. Sometimes we are quick to judge and assume that business are avoiding but many times they don't know.”

A few stakeholders preferred that misdemeanor penalties remain as the primary enforcement tool and that the county should more actively punish violators. Reasons included the importance of ensuring public safety, the value of significant penalties as a deterrent, and the appropriateness of criminal penalties when violations are repeated, intentional, or especially dangerous.

5-6: The Proposed Appeals Process

Questions

5. What questions or concerns do you have about this proposed appeals process?
6. Considering the proposed changes, what suggestions do you have to ensure a fair and equitable process?

“The appeal officers need to be culturally diverse to represent the diversity of the people, have no connections with the city/county so there is trust in the process. Work with cultural organizations to help identify those appeal officers.”

Analysis

There was strong support for the proposed new appeals process, with some specific suggestions on the hearing officer selection criteria and how long licensees had to appeal a citation. Requests for more education and process transparency came up in response to this and other topics.

A number of contributors stressed the importance of the hearing officer being neutral and unbiased, experienced and/or knowledgeable about both the regulations and the businesses being reviewed, and selected with consideration to racial diversity and community representation.

Most comments related to the appeal timeframe thought the proposed 10 business days was too short given their busy operations and potential delays in their receiving or reviewing the citation.

7-9: Risk-Based Fine structure

Questions:

7. What are the benefits of this risk-based approach to fine amounts?
8. What are your questions or concerns?
9. What other ideas do you have about how to structure the civil citation fines?

“More proportional this way as long as over time the fines will be reviewed for appropriateness and effectiveness”

Analysis

Responses indicated clear, consistent, and very strong support for structuring civil citation fine amounts based on the potential risk from a violation. Stakeholders indicated this was a fair, equitable, sensible, and logical approach. Some respondents were concerned that the maximum civil citation fine amount was too high, with a few noting it might be too low to motivate corrective action.

“The punishment should fit the crime, I like the risk based fines, especially since the person is given several opportunities to fix it.”

Participants wanted to know more about the logistics of civil penalty fines, such as whether the business or an individual was liable for the fine and the specific fine amounts. Specific suggestions included that fine amounts be higher for repeat offenders or for larger operations with more resources to comply and thus fewer excuses for violations.

Some respondents supported reviewing fine amounts periodically to ensure proper alignment with potential risks from a violation. A few were concerned that fines might be levied subjectively or noted the need for objective policies to ensure county staff follow appropriate procedures.

COMPILATION OF RESULTS

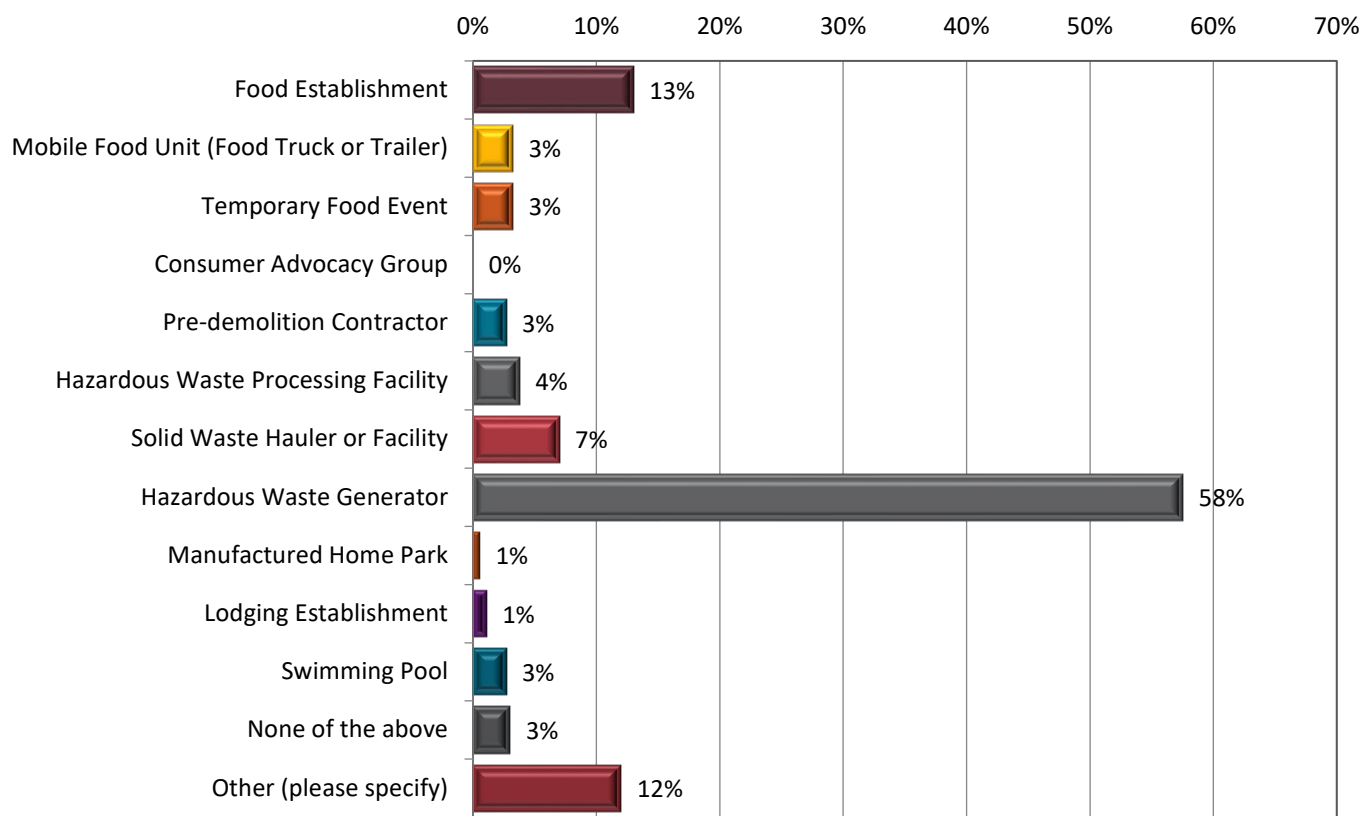
Below are all results for each question.

1. Organization type or license held

This question was required and had 186 responses.

- [Jump to next section](#)
- [Return to previous section](#)
- [Return to Table of Contents](#)

Organization type or the applicable Ramsey County issued licenses you hold. (check all that apply)



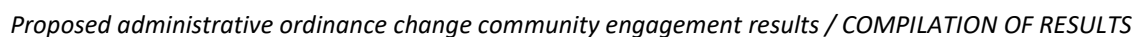
Other (please specify):

- Assisted living community
- Catering company for limited food service
- childcare center
- Class F retail food license
- Demolition Contractor
- Dental
- Food stand
- gift shop
- Healthcare clinic
- I am involved with two types of business
- Limited School Food Service
- Public Facility

- Residential Care Home with an Assisted Living license
- Residential General Contractor
- Restoration Contractor
- Retail Pharmacy
- school
- Vending machine
- Vending Machine
- Vending Machines
- Very small Hazardous waste generator
- VSQ

Participants could offer multiple responses; there were 135 **responses** to this question.

- Word Cloud: Do you see any advantages to keeping the current process with only a criminal penalty?



Responses: Do you see any advantages to keeping the current process with only a criminal penalty?

- Awareness is more important and a warning is good first
- Civil Citation is the best route.
- depending on the severity of the violation, yes
- Harsh penalty may serve as a deterrent
- How people end up in jail and why?
- I am curious if Ramsey County Health Department can create laws? Do you need to go through the proper legislative process or are you people our law makers?
- I don't see any advantages to keeping the current process
- I don't see how a fine will do anything but increase the coffers for the county. And cause more time for the inspections.
- I feel that a more severe penalty may prevent a business from intentionally breaking the rules
- I see no advantage to keeping the current process. the proposed seems more fair
- I see no advantages to keeping the current process
- I think a criminal penalty is pretty harsh. The current citation I have to admit was a bit of a shock. I had no idea it was that strict.
- I think because the first penalty is a criminal one the County is reluctant to enforce code violations. We have a competitor in our industry who gives us all a bad name and blatantly flaunts all code violations and doesn't care because they know there will be no enforcement. Showing them that there are consequences by starting with civil options will hopefully embolden the County to actually take action.
- I think it should be changed to the new propose new step before criminal charges
- I would be OK with a civil citation added before a criminal one but I don't trust government - especially after the last 20 months. Also - I don't think you really care what I think - you'll do whatever you think you can get away with - that's the way uncontrolled government works
- If the county health department is already taking opportunities to educate people who have made mistakes or not understood the rules, then given them three chances to correct the issues, why decrease the penalty? All it does is let rule breakers know they can get away with it. If you are not using opportunities to educate and give them a chance to correct infractions (I'm unclear if that is what is happening), then why not give them those chances, then give a misdemeanor? Without a consequence, there is no healthy fear of breaking the rules. If there are too many misdemeanors, I don't think the problem is the rules, but something else that is not working.
- It looks like Ramsey County is increasing the work load for the inspectors.
- It seems like serious offenders will be less likely to pay attention to safety concerns without a serious penalty
- less work for compliance enforcers, but I agree with adding the civil citation if workload allows
- Misdemeanor should be thrown out altogether.
- New rules seem proportionate to what is likely often accident or misunderstanding.
- No

- no
- No
- no
- No
- No
- No
- no
- no
- no
- no
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- no
- No
- no
- no
- no
- no
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- no
- no

- No
- No
- No
- no
- no
- No
- No
- no
- No
- No
- no
- No
- no
- No
- No - it is extra unnecessary clogging up of the justice system
- No - this proposal seems much more reasonable and positive step.
- no advantage
- No advantage
- No Advantage
- No advantage to keeping current process
- No advantage to keeping the current process
- no advantage to old system
- No advantage. Most people who violate city regulations don't understand them and aren't intentionally trying to break the law.

- No advantages
- No advantages for the current system.
- No criminal penalties, unless many warnings and education fails
- No feel you do better when you know better.
- No I do not
- No I do not. As a former Chief of Police I see extreme value in giving enforcement agencies a larger tool box to work from and feel strongly that discretion in this area will increase compliance and do more to protect the Environment
- No I do not. The current criminal penalty for a first offense that includes jail time seems unreasonable unless the violation was egregious.
- No I don't.
- No-I choose to believe that business owners follow rules and regulations and in instances where a deviation occurs, should have the opportunity to correct without being cited and/or fined
- No, If it is a first offense and was mistakenly missed it puts to much pressure on the courts for a small issue.

- No, because not everyone is perfect. However, to be given a chance is like a lifeline. A civil citation is preferable of course, but if it is indeed intentional and repetitive violation, then that's another story.
- No, criminal penalties for first time offenses seems excessive
- No, current process is to strict especially when the act was not intentional and could be the result of a responsibility change from one person to another.
- No, I am for the proposed civil citation. The other actions are too extreme.
- No, I don't see any advantage. I like the new process of trying to resolve prior to criminal penalty.
- No, I don't think it's a fair practice as most companies don't plan on violating but others do & they should be held liable
- No, i feel that the civil citation is the right place to start and allow the problem to be corrected.
- No, I say it would be more beneficial to change the system.
- No, I think the penalties are too harsh and believe the facilities should be given education and then the chance to correct the problem/penalty before a misdemeanor is cited.
- No, I think the proposal is good. If you're dealing with permit holders that wish to adhere to the rules but may need additional assistance to help them comply, it's better to offer your expertise and assistance first to help, as long as they're sincere in their desire to follow the rules.
- No, keep the criminal oversight where it belongs
- No, like the new proposed changes
- No, promoting education first is better, then later criminal charges
- No, the initial civil citation proposed is better.
- no, unless it is a pollution violation
- No.
- no.
- No. Civil first, criminal second makes sense.
- No. Especially in locations that have a corporate HQ enter reports and pay the fees.
- No. It's better to follow due process and allow the public
- No. But the limit of the FINE Amount should be different.
- No. I am happy to see the rule change.
- No. I think the new change is much more fair.
- No. I think the system Ramsey county uses will be adequate with use of civil citation.
- No. It doesn't make sense to make it a crime.
- No. It doesn't seem like many VSQG hazardous waste generators know about the criminal penalties, so they are not working as a deterrent. Suddenly facing criminal penalties could be very damaging to a business
- No. This course of action seems to be much more practical.
- None
- None
- None
- none at all
- None whatsoever
- Not really
- Not sure
- Options are always good when it comes citations.
- The current process has worked for us. See no reason for change.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only advantage I see is to ensure the perceived risk is high enough for those that consciously choose to not be in compliance with the rules and laws (e.g. misdemeanor "criminal" citation). • The only advantages to the current process is the ability to discourage irresponsible practices. I believe the changed penalties are stringent enough and more easily enforced it will outweigh any adverse response from the changes. • The proposed process looks better • This is essentially civil rather than criminal law. It's ridiculous to start of bringing regulatory issues into the criminal arena unless compliance cannot be | <p>obtained by non-criminal enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat of a criminal record should entice a higher % of compliance. • to get into compliance. • Truthfully, no. • Unsure • We don't, any transgressions are as a result of lack of knowledge and not on purpose • yes • Yes • Yes & No, If a new business owner is involved, they may just guidance to correct issue and giving a criminal violation would quite drastic! An experienced owner should understand the rules and criminal charges may be | <p>a better fit but should still be given a warning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, there are obvious advantages. While this doesn't really address some of the core issues with the ordinance, it at least lessens the initial penalties for noncompliance. • Yes. actions have consequences. Stop this political game • Yes. Current process seems very reasonable and anyone who can't get things straightened out after three follow-ups deserves criminal punishment. |
|--|---|--|

Responses: What concerns do you have with adding civil penalties before escalating to criminal penalties?

- A multi-step process is good for everyone & shouldn't be a criminal offense.
- based on the way this information is presented, it seems like a win-win. if you warn someone and they don't comply, they deserve retaliation. if it's a legitimate learning experience for the offender, the penalty should be less harsh (barring gross negligence).
- Businesses may not always be aware that they are in violation of some rules.
- Cannot think of anything at this time
- Civil Penalties would allow more judgement by inspector on lighter issues.
- COVID 19 already hard enough for restaurant owner should not give hard times very soon the no restaurants for you guy to inspected or fines
- do we get an initial warning and time to comply with anything found in violation and then this whole process kicks in?
- for the first year, suggest there be a goal to educate. since perhaps some very minor violations were overlooked due to the severe nature of the penalty.
- How many people could be hurt in the meantime by dangerous behavior while the civil penalties are worked through
- I favor the idea of not adding to the courts caseload particularly those matters that could be resolved informally, faster, and less costly and burdensome to the tax payer. I would like to see safeguards in place so purposed changes are not exploited and taken advantage of. Exceptions to this purposed change should be allowed for those severe violation where criminal charges are more appropriate. Maybe not all first time violations should be given the use of a non-criminal option based on severity and repeat offenses.
- I have no concerns
- I have no concerns. I support this action. Education based enforcement is preferable.
- I have none. It is the right thing to do.
- I see that it could add county employee time to the process if not corrected with the civil citation.
- I think it is a good idea
- If a company can maintain a profit in production greater than the penalties the problem could go on longer before the problem could be shut down. This could lead to more abuse of the rules
- It may make enforcement more difficult but since there is still an option to escalate after civil penalties, I think this risk is low.
- It will more time intense for the county, but good for establishments
- It won't deter law breakers actions
- Just as the term implies, it keeps the process "Civil". I believe that most, if not all, of those who break the rules, do not premeditate and intend to break the rule.

• Lesser penalties will open the door for more non-compliant incidences. It is not as scary if you are told you could pay up to \$1000 fine if you are found improperly disposing of hazardous waste, than if you are told that fine would also result in a personal criminal record.	• None	• None
	• none	• None
	• None	• None
	• none	• none
	• none	• None
	• None	• none
	• none	• none
	• None	• None
• More staffing and higher taxes	• none	• None
	• none	• None
• no concerns	• None	• None
• no concerns	• none	• None
• No concerns	• None	• none
• No concerns and more fair to the businesses	• none	• None
• No concerns and this will promote better compliance and easier enforcement.	• none	• none
	• none	• None
	• none	• None
• No concerns here. I like it, seems more fair	• None	• none
	• none	• none
• No Concerns it makes sense	• none	• None
	• none	• None
• No concerns.	• None	• None
• No concerns. Looks fair, and quite honestly it's hard to keep up with all of the codes, etc.	• None	• None
	• none	• None
• No I have not concern. I like the new process better.	• None	• None
	• none	• None
	• None	• None
• No real concerns unless the violation is so blatant and severe	• None	• None

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None • None - just get some backbone and start enforcing code violations • none at all • None at this time • None, I think it is a better way to give establishments a break and allow them to correct mistakes. • None, seems more fair • None. • None. • None. • None. • None. • None. I believe people should have an opportunity to fix something, but should be held accountable if they do not follow the rules. • None. I think civil penalties is more acceptable than criminal penalties • None. I think this is a fair direction to go in. • None. It's an excellent idea • None. I believe the compliance regulators are able to tell who the sincere permit holders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> are that want to maintain compliance. • None. I believe the entity should be given education and a chance to correct the problem. • None. If anything, civil penalty is enough. • none. makes the most sense. • None, it seems appropriate to have an initial violation citation that does not include jail time and a criminal record. • Not sure • nothing • Only concern is that the County won't enforce the violation • Penalties for the size of the operation. operations that are small generator's can not keep up with ever changing rules and regulations. They simply do not have the manpower, departments, or attorneys that are on top of new changes. • Ramsey County needs to worry about other things than applying WOKE civil penalties that will do nothing! • Refer to answer for 2. • same as answer to #2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • see above • See above • See previous response. • Solve the problems don't fine the business out of existence. • Some may slack, but the fine should still be incentive • Some people may not be knowledgeable about the process and therefore get themselves into trouble. • That there will not be staffing to follow up on the education and compliance piece. • that this purposed change is not taken advantage of • The civil citation is a bit more fair, I don't feel the criminal penalties fit the crime. • The county could use this method as a revenue tool and asses more fines. • The only concern I have is that some businesses may consider civil penalties a slap on the wrist versus criminal charges. • The only concern I would have is these violations |
|--|---|--|

- not being followed up on in a timely fashion.
- The person's criminal record will be marked forever
- Unnecessary. Process already more than fair.
- Unsure
- violators who have a past history may use this as "get out of jail card"
- we sell automotive batteries and recycle them
- You have to hire too many employees to do three follow-up visits

Participants could offer multiple responses; there were 88 **responses** to this question.

- Jump to next section
- Return to previous section
- Return to Table of Contents



Responses: Please use this space below to share any other thoughts or ideas (adding civil penalties)

- A process of re-education, assistance, training, fines and warning before legal actions
- A warning and a fine is better w/a first violation
- A warning system first and foremost for any violation unless it was a deliberate violation.
- and looking for ways to lessen strain on the criminal system
- Arresting people for not having a license should be the last resort. People should be notified and the violation be corrected.
- As an owner my concern would be a rouge employee causing a problem to incriminate a owner.
- Businesses should be penalized, not the specific driver.
- Continue to provide education and help keep us in guidelines.
- Criminal charges are harsh
- Education and communication of Ramsey county standards would be better suited from an education standpoint for minor infractions. Having a spirit of cooperation with the proposed language means a lot to providers given the labor market now and into the future.
- Either way I believe more education is needed. I did not see the criminal violation on any google search I did. Education on the penalties is needed.
- Feel this is fair. Organizations should be allowed time to correct any issues they may have before criminal actions. Also I feel this will help with more compliance.
- Following the due process, it will help build a good relationship with the public and obtain compliance and cooperation.
- great way to help ensure that regulators just want to help you and the economy
- I agree with the proposed changes. Most businesses try to be in compliance with the rules, and it's a one-off mistake or miss that creates a compliance finding.
- I am not opposed to adding the option of a civil penalty for lesser infractions, more of a sliding scale. The inspectors that I've interacted with are GREAT at coaching to prevent being fined. However I'm sure they are issuing less citation on smaller yet repetitive infractions. Lets say the business was told at the last 4 inspections that they are missing the no smoking sign on their front entrance. Obviously to escalate straight to a criminal penalty seems drastic, and will likely not happen. BUT if there were an option to fine \$100-1000 and continue to do so until it is fixed. That might get the owner to put the sign up before the next inspection.
- I appreciate the health department thinking outside of the box.
- I believe education is the key to compliance with most businesses.
- I believe this makes perfect sense.
- I disagree with being charged with a criminal offense with something that has to do with my work and especially if it is not my fault
- I do feel that certain infractions that are not corrected with coaching (or that are intentionally non-compliant) should receive a criminal citation off the bat. If someone is dumping hazardous waste into the environment they should not need a warning, civil citation, then only come to criminal if it continues. When it comes to certain things, ignorance is not an acceptable defense.

- I had no idea that I could have a criminal record for actions of my business.
- I like that you are giving business owners the opportunity to make corrections prior to criminal penalty. Sometimes we are quick to judge and assume that business are avoiding but many times they don't know. No one want to create problem to their business. We exist because we want to be successful. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to give feedback.
- I like the proposed change.
- I like the proposed changes. It shows that the county wants to educate and correctly see the violations are corrected. I feel it will build a better relationship between the two parties.
- I see it as a fair and reasonable attempt to work with the problems and hopefully get violations corrected in a timely manner.
- I support the civil citation idea. Thanks for bringing it up!
- I support this change as regulations frequently change or employment changes. It is difficult to know all the regulations for multi-location companies.

Thank you for this proposed change.

- I think it's a great idea
- I think these changes would be a much better way to handle these issues.
- I think this is a good and logical idea
- I think this is a great mitigation plan to encourage businesses to cooperate and legitimately claim ignorance for minor violations.
- I think this is a much more natural first step in the process
- I think this is great. Education is very important in these matters
- I think what you propose is a good idea. keeps people from hiding problems and possibly seeking out guidance from you on things they need help with.
- I think it's a great idea
- I was not aware that a license violation was a criminal offense. I believe that many people are unaware of that.
- I would rather the proposed over the current
- I'm neither for or against it.
- I'm surprised the proposed rule change isn't already enforced. Businesses should always have instruction /

training to help them understand. Going straight to criminal charges seems a bit extreme, especially if a new business owner is involved that may not understand the regulations clearly.

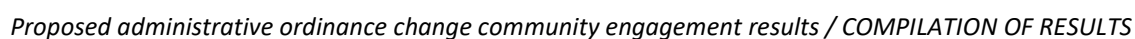
- If an establishment operates more than one type of business such as a food/smoothie and operates as fitness/gym it should be clear on which rules they need to follow and not be able to skirt the rules of one because they claim to operate the business that has less rules.
- If the goal is for education and partnership with licensees I believe adding a civil citation as a first step is appropriate.
- It seems excessive, especially when there is no intent to do wrong
- It seems unnecessary to involve the criminal justice system as a first enforcement option.
- It should possibly depend on the violation, if there is a real health risk or negligence to community healthy than maybe a fine is not enough.
- Looks like a good idea
- Majority of businesses want to stay open. I believe they will abide by the civil penalties which will help the business to stay open and

- educate in what needs to be done and why.
- makes sense, good job
 - more detail would be needed to the rule to ensure public safety is first and foremost.
 - Need to enforce the civil penalties.
 - none
 - none
 - none
 - None
 - None
 - none at this time
 - Nothing comes to mind. I like this proposal and think it makes sense and it is very fair and appropriate.
 - one concern is if this purposed change to violations is a "one size fits all" meaning any violation regardless how serious or consequential would allow the violator an "Out" and possible encourage some sloppy or risky behaviors.
 - Our small non-profit organization does it's best to meet all regulations.
 - Please move forward with the new proposed changes
 - please provide a list of all ordinances to help with compliance
 - Regulations can be complex, giving a civil penalty "warning" seems beneficial to allow for education and correction of behavior
 - Removing the criminal citation as the first step will help with compliance and will be a better incentive to correct the problem.
 - Residential care homes like our company is a really good alternative homes for our residents who are disable, mentally ill and homeless people that has faced unfortunate events in their lives. I think this is one way of giving them a beautiful place to live and die with dignity.
 - see above
 - Seem a reasonable adjustment give current realities / resources
 - Seems like the most fair and equitable resolution
 - since we only do a temporary food permit, it would be better to a civil penalty instead of a criminal penalty. We are a volunteer based organization, so we already do a lot for the organization and to get a criminal penalty while doing volunteer work, it would prevent others from wanting to volunteer
 - Thank you for taking this initiative.
 - The civil citation proposed is a better fit I believe, I had no idea we all were walking such a thin line for compliance.
 - The county has always helped solve issues before any penalties I like the idea of adding another layer
 - The new process is very fair.
 - The opportunity for the chance to correct an issue is most welcome!
 - The ordinance change is a great idea.
 - The purpose of regulatory enforcement is to bring business and individuals into compliance not to punish. Not saying that punitive action should never be taken but first try education and voluntary compliance, then civil penalties and finally criminal enforcement.
 - The state of MN has a lot of lakes to protect from some hazardous wastes. Our food industry needs to continue maintaining a good reputation in handling our food. All of us in business need to be good stewards of the planet we live on.
 - There is very little education surrounding this issue in our industry. Most violations are likely out of ignorance rather than willful neglect.

- There should perhaps be a clause for obvious documented gross negligence, or else you're giving everyone one chance to really intentionally break the law.
- This is a good step by Ramsey County
- This is where the proposed changes make sense. Educate first, then take action if no change occurs
- This looks like a good change
- This no doubt has to do with COVID 19 and the continuing of "mandates" to keep us all "safe" from all the viruses of the world.
- This proposed change makes perfect sense to me and I can think of no downside. It's very counterproductive to make small business owners criminals.
- This still doesn't address the core problems with the ordinance. No one from Ramsey County comes out to inspect MFU's unless it's at a big event. This means the ordinance isn't about health or safety, it's about money. If a MFU is already licensed by the state, there should be no reason for additional licensing.
- we already file for a license every year so I don't think this affects us
- What I said above.
- Will we be able to receive some information on which ordinances this will impact the most?

Participants could offer multiple responses; there were 112 **responses** to this question.

- Word Cloud: What questions or concerns do you have about this proposed appeals process?



Responses: What questions or concerns do you have about this proposed appeals process?

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 days does not seem long enough to appeal, especially for those locations that would have to get their corporate legal team involved. • 10 days is not enough time to appeal. • 10 days to appeal is short notice, esp. if served by mail in first place • a general member of the public should not be used • As long as the business first had an option to fix the issue before the citation, this process seems fine. • Handling the concerns this way is more fair and effective. • Hearing officers are not Judges and should not be handing out penalties • how long will this process drag on? • I have no additional questions. This process seems fair. • I have no concerns • I have no questions. • I think it sounds fair. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think it sounds very fair. • I would like to see a longer appeal period. 30 days seems reasonable • I would want the hearing officer to have at least some understanding of regulations and can interpret them fairly • I'm not sure the 10 days is enough time. • Just want to make sure that whoever the appeal officers are they need to understand their roles and they need to be neutral. There is a lack of trust with the county / government system because our experience have been that they all work together and have a got cha attitude. There's no trust in the process for fairness especially when you are a person of color. Process must be fair. • looks good • My concern is government overreach when trying to run a free market business • no • No • No concerns • No concerns | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No concerns as long as it is a neutral party. • No questions. I think it's appropriate always to have a non-biased hearing option so all parties are heard and ensured due process. • No time to investigate rules broken • None • none • none • None • none • None • None • None • none • None • none • none • none • None • None • None • None |
|--|--|---|

- | | | |
|--------|---|--|
| • None | • None | • None, makes sense to move this direction. |
| • none | • None | |
| • none | • none | • None, sounds very fair to me |
| • none | • None | • None. |
| • none | • none | • None. |
| • none | • None | • None. I feel it is fair. |
| • None | • none | • Nope |
| • None | • None | • Only the possible bias of the hearing officer |
| • none | • None | |
| • None | • None | • Seems a short time to appeal |
| • none | • None | • seems fine |
| • None | • None | • Seems very fair to me |
| • None | • None | • Suggest 20 days to appeal and stick to it |
| • None | • None | • The appeal process must accommodate everyone. |
| • None | • None | • The hearing officer should be an expert in the associated field, but still a neutral party |
| • None | • None | |
| • None | • none - seems straight forward. | • Timing, I'm not sure 10 days is enough time to respond, especially if the citation is mailed., |
| • none | • none at this time | |
| • none | • none at this time | |
| • none | • None this is a good idea | • Total BS. After 3 follow-ups, there shouldn't be any uncertainty. |
| • none | • None-sounds fair | |
| • None | • None, I think it sounds like a fair process | • What background will the hearing officer have with regards to the issued violation? |
| • None | | |
| • none | | |

Responses: Considering the proposed changes, what suggestions do you have to ensure a fair and equitable process?

- 10 Days seems short. Can it be increased to 20?
- a very broad question but what comes to mind is setting limits on what types of alleged offenses would fit this purposed model and what will not. One example on what might not fit is deliberate acts of misconduct with impact to community or response agencies. Offender with repeat history.
- Again the size of the operations. Large operations held to a higher standard due to their ability for staffing versus the smallest operation.
- agree with proposal as is
- Always consider the business being dealt with. If it's a new owner leniency should be considered. If it's a experienced owner that clearly should understand the rules then the latter should apply.
- "As a new Food truck, I would just want to make sure I have the ability to fix things and get educated on what I don't know.
- based on the way this information is presented, it seems like a win-win. if you warn someone and they don't comply, they deserve retaliation. if it's a legitimate learning experience for the offender, the penalty should be less harsh (barring gross negligence).
- Best practice is to follow the rules so as not to receive a citation in the first place
- communication with inspectors
- Don't make these changes.
- Education. Send out an e-mail with changes and rules annually.
- For the few businesses that still don't comply after citation, clearly define what happens next.
- for the first year, suggest there be a goal to educate. since perhaps some very minor violations were overlooked due to the severe nature of the penalty.
- Has some objective form of "gross misconduct or disregard for safety" option been considered?
- have a "list" available online that is industry specific for things that on the evaluation list.
- Have the hearing officer be someone with experience running or working in a similar business to the one given the citation. They would best understand the merits of the case.
- Hearing officer should be a mediator and unbiased.
- I appreciate that the inspectors will work with an organization to rectify a violation before a citation is imposed.
- I can't think of anything now.
- I do not have any additional suggestions.
- I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY.
- I don't see any problems and have no suggestions.
- I like the proposal
- I like the proposed changes.
- I think it sounds fair

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think that the proposed changes will provide a fair and equitable process • I would have the appeal process go for 3 weeks. • Increase the amount of time, and outline what can be appealed. • Increase the response time to 30 days. • It appears more fair than the previous process • It should go to an outside person to assign neutral party, not the county assigning that person • Just ensure the individual organization has been heard • Lay out standards and expectations clearly prior to enforcement. • Licensees need to know about this before they are faced with the penalties • make sure all license applications come with a set of, or a link to, all applicable rules. Ensure those rules are read somehow • Make sure all parties are aware of their rights with adequate amount of time. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the proposed change • multiple forms of communication; both mail, email to ensure rights are known • no suggestions • No suggestions • No suggestions • None • none • None • None • None • none • None • none • none • none • none • none • none • none • none • None | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None • None • None • None • None • None • None • None • None - I think the proposed change makes sense • None - just get some backbone and start enforcing code violations • none - the current process is fair and equitable. Training is regularly offered for anyone to learn compliance, the inspectors (at least on our end) are out on a very regular basis and again GREAT at coaching and training on site OR easy to reach out via email / phone if any questions arise with a new process or suspected issue. I feel like there are already more than adequate tools and resources available to anyone needing to learn / remain compliant. |
|--|--|---|

- none at this time
- none at this time
- None at this time.
- None at this time.
- none.
- None.
- None. I believe the entity should be given education and a chance to correct the problem.
- Only to ensure that the hearing officer is impartial.
- Perhaps some consideration should be given to past violators based on severity and frequency
- physical paper notices- sometimes in the process of running a business one forgets that they are due to renew something.
- Possibly extend the time for notice, mail service is awful
- Proper communication of expectations before put into place and moving forward.
- Seems to be both.
- Solve the problems don't fine the business out of existence.
- Spell out the criteria for voluntary compliance, when to move to civil penalties and then criminal sanctions
- Stay out of my business as much as possible. I appreciate the food safety protocols but beyond that it's all about control
- The adjustments increase the equitability of the process
- The appeal officers need to be culturally diverse to represent the diversity of the people, have no connections with the city/county so there is trust in the process. Work with cultural organizations to help identify those appeal officers. Please our feedback because there are no trust in the county/city/government system right now. There's a fear factor most of the time. And that is not good practice. We want to see that our city and county personnel exist to help us not to tear us down.
- The process is overwhelming for small businesses and needs simplified
- The process you are suggesting seems very fair.
- The proposed process sounds fair.
- There needs to be a warning process added. Even a fix it and reinspection would be ok
- this looks good
- Understand that mistakes do happen. So allowing an appeal is just.
- Unsure
- Very fair and equitable, approved!
- What is proposed seems reasonable.
- What is the mode of the citation being issued? US Mail?
- When does the 10 days to appeal start? The date of the citation? The date the offender receives it?
- yes

7. What are the benefits of the risk-based approach to the fine amounts?

Participants could offer multiple responses; there were 109 responses to this question.

- [Jump to next section](#)
- [Return to previous section](#)
- [Return to Table of Contents](#)

Word Cloud: What are the benefits of the risk-based approach to the fine amounts?



Responses: What are the benefits of the risk-based approach to the fine amounts?

- "Punishment fits the crime" which makes sense
- Again, I am opposed to the proposed civil penalties.
- Agreed
- Amount fits the violation
- Appropriate level of fine
- Businesses should be concerned about the safety of employees and the public they serve. I think the proposal keeps businesses in check and gives them the opportunity to correct any violations . It seems quite fair.
- "But I do like that different levels have been created. Serious Violations need to have a sting if not followed.
- "
- Common sense
- creates a more equitable retribution system
- Easier to make the high risk issues more important
- eliminates nonsense fines and power hungry County inspectors (of which I have never encountered thus far)
- equitable
- Fair
- fair fine
- Fair fines for violation. A lesser offense should be punished but not at the same rate as a major offense or repeated offender.
- Fair tiered system
- fairness
- Fairness to all types of business/industry involved
- fine fits the violation
- fines are more equitable
- Fines fit the violation more appropriately.
- flexibility
- For me it would be the will to adhere to the rules and avoid any form of fine.
- Good
- Have the penalty fit the crime
- Higher compliance with varying risk fines
- Higher risk should equal higher penalty
- hit them in the pocketbook, low risk smaller fines, high risk hefty fines
- Hopefully a quicker response to rectify the issue
- Hopefully they are proportional to the actual risks posed to the public.
- Hopefully, the fines will fit the crimes
- I don't have an opinion
- I agree I think a basic violation shouldn't be the same fee as a grossly high risk violation, that's fair.
- I agree that certain violations are a higher risk than others, and should be treated as such.
- I don't see any
- I like it, makes total sense and is not just subjective
- I like them
- I look at the smoking example as something that could get away from the county and just pester the people of Ramsey
- I think it's a good idea.
- I would say this matches the current State and Federal structure (e.g. OSHA)
- is a fair process

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is fair • It appears to be well thought through. • It ensures an appropriate fine is applied based on the compliance issue. No one should be fined an unreasonable amount for something that is low risk and can be easily fixed. • It makes sense. • It makes your overreach not look so "mean" • It may get a business owner's attention more • It places the emphasis in the correct place • It takes into account human and environmental safety • it's a good idea, not every risk is the same • It's a great approach for minor violations • It's simple, straight forward and something OSHA has done for years. • It's a bit subjective, but it makes more sense than having the same fine to different risk levels. • Lesser or inadvertent transgressions are fined accordingly | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • logical • Lower consequences for less serious offenses • Lower fine for lower level violations • Makes more fair for businesses that fall in lower risk • Makes more sense. There should be a smaller penalty for an offense that does not really harm anyone. • makes sense • Makes sense to me. Are fines public knowledge? • makes the fines more reasonable for a lesser offense • match the consequences with the severity of the violation = natural consequences. I like it. • Minimal risk violations deserve minimum penalties. • Minor violations would not be costly to small businesses. • More fair • More fair to the businesses based on violation • More proportional this way as long as over time the fines will be reviewed for | <p>appropriateness and effectiveness like anything else.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No benefits • no smoking sign. A civil process appears to cut red tape and quicker resolutions • none • None • None • None • None • Not all crimes are equal, punishments should fit crime • Not sure • not sure • punishment fits the crime • Punishment is proportional to the infraction. • Reasonable as long as the level of risk is objective and not subjective. • Risk is the key, you pay for being careless • scalable • Seems company should ultimately be responsible for employees/volunteers • Seems Fair |
|---|---|--|

- Seems fair. If a repeat offender, does that affect the fine?
- seems more fair to everyone
- seems to be a fair approach
- Seems to be in alignment with rules broke
- Some infractions are significantly less important than other so it makes sense
- Stricter consequences for the most dangerous violations
- Targets more high risk activities and possible violations
- That minor fines don't put a major strain on your business finances
- The amount more closely mirrors the infraction
- The benefits is the violation better fits the offense
- The fine will make the owner hard yet if the owner are not for the rule or not fix by the dead line you may fine it
- The level of penalty should fit the magnitude of the risk. This seems obvious to me.
- The punishment should fit the crime, I like the risk-based fines, especially since the person is given several opportunities to fix it.
- The risk-based approach seems very fair. The more dangerous the higher fine. That makes perfect sense.
- They make sense to me.
- This demonstrates that not all violations are equitable which helps small businesses remedy violations.
- This is an approach that makes sense
- This is as it should be, the risk should define the punishment
- This is very good and fair.
- This makes sense as the higher the risk the higher the fine.
- This seems reasonable
- understanding of risk in general is how we all make decisions. it is a good idea.
- Unsure
- Violations aren't lumped into a one size fits all approach

Participants could offer multiple responses; there were 85 **responses** to this question.

- ### Word Cloud: What are your questions or concerns? (Risk-Based approach)



Responses: What are your questions or concerns? (Risk-Based approach)

- | | | |
|---|--|--------|
| • Also, if there are multiple violations, are there multiple fines or a single fine? | • is the business who is fined or the person obtaining the license | • None |
| | | • none |
| | | • none |
| • As noted. | • Is the fine to the individual or organization/company?? | • None |
| | Both | • none |
| • Could the fine be based on the number of times the same infraction occurred? | • Is there a list of all the ordinances. | • None |
| | | • none |
| • For smaller organizations where funds are tight, even \$100 could be a lot. | • Is this a 1 time per incidence type of a citation? Like with your swimming pool scenario, would they continue to be cited / fined daily until compliance is met? | • none |
| | | • none |
| • Highest fine is too high. Bring down to \$500 please. That will put a small business in financial difficulty. | • Makes sense to me. Are fines public knowledge? | • None |
| | | • none |
| • How are you finding the offenders? | • No. But the limit of the FINE Amount should be different. | • None |
| | | • none |
| • how will these fines be chosen | • None | • none |
| | • None | • none |
| • I do not have any additional questions or concerns | • None | • None |
| | | • None |
| • I have addressed them in previous questions. | • none | • None |
| | • None | • none |
| • I have no questions. | • None | • none |
| | | • None |
| • If the business had the chance to fix the problem before citation, they should have done that. | • None | • None |
| | • none | • None |
| | • None | • none |
| • Is it during an inspection? | • None | • None |
| | • none | • none |
| | • None | • None |

- None
- None
- None
- None
- None
- None
- None
- none
- none
- None
- None - you'll do whatever you want anyways - or whatever you can get away with
- none at this time
- None at this time
- none at this time.
- None, this seems to make sense as written.
- None.
- None.
- None.
- Only that the process is more complicated than necessary
- Seems fair. If a repeat offender, does that affect the fine?
- The County could use this as a revenue stream and issue more fines.
- What happens to repeat offenders, are the penalties increased and do we take away the civil citation part?
- Where has this been done successfully?
- Who decides the risk level? Is it case-by-case or will that be pre-determined
- Who is fined? The company? Or individual filling out the forms and stuff?
- who is responsible for fines? individual or company?
- Why are you wasting county tax dollars on the nonsense?
- Will more businesses risk citation rather than fix their problems?

Participants could offer multiple responses; there were 102 **responses** to this question.

- Word Cloud: What other ideas do you have about how to structure the civil citation fines?



Responses: What other ideas do you have about how to structure the civil citation fines?

- \$100 seems a bit extreme for a 1st time offender of a missing no
- \$100.00 fine for missing a "No Smoking" sign? What if it is a new building, a building going under restoration and the inspector misses it. Does the inspector pay or the tenant?
- 1st offenses for minor infractions should have a warning and no fine.
- a different standard for the size of operations. Not all operations have the staffing to be in compliance at all time with changes to the policies.
- A sliding scale with fixed amounts to alleviate County employee chances of misconduct
- Are fines public record/knowledge? Public should be aware of violations
- Be realistic on the fine amounts associated with the penalty giving an opportunity to correct before imposing a fine.
- Could a table be established to detail what violations/activities are levied what fines?
- Define when failure to pay citations or excess number of citations will result in revoking the business license.
- Don't.
- Education should be first and I think Laura does a great job at that.
- Education. Leave no reason for ignorance.
- Enforce the fines!
- Fair fines for violation. A lesser offense should be punished but not at the same rate as a major offense or repeated offender.
- Fines should be based on criteria and circumstances and not just subjective
- Good, after first offense, a judge can decide in a criminal case if needed
- I did not realize what the original penalty was so considering that I feel the change is very fair!
- I do not have any at this time.
- I feel this is a great starting point, and it should be reassessed in the future for any improvement opportunities
- I have no ideas
- I like risk based
- I think in addition to the initial citation they also help the violator with suggestions for correction. Don't just hand out the citation and walk away, knowledge is very helpful. If you are enforcing an ordinance it is also up to you to know the solution and advise them of how to correct the violation. Staff should be knowledgeable in what they are enforcing.
- I think what you are structuring is logical. More dangerous a higher fine.
- I would hope severity and or past history has some bearings on who is illegible and who is not. Or a minimum, what violations would be excluded.
- Is \$1000 enough for a CIVIL max fine? Understanding that the criminal max is also \$1000 - yet that also could include jail time. Since the civil citation would not pose a risk of jail or criminal records - I feel like you could go higher on the fine scale.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is \$1000 max enough bite for blatant violations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reviewed for appropriateness and effectiveness like anything else. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It should possibly depend on the violation, if there is a real health risk or negligence to community healthy than maybe a fine is not enough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be different from the Criminal Citation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just evaluate the fines periodically to make sure that it is proportional in nature. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just share guidelines prior to enforcement please. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep our restaurants safe by focusing on food safety not covid BS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping business aware of the regulations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No other ideas, I believe this is a well thought out approach and is better than the current citation process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let the Judge decide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • looks good 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure it is fair and you need see from a business owner perspectives. Sometimes we are so busy that we may miss it but never have any intentions to create or avoid citation. Give warning before citation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More proportional this way as long as over time the fines will be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not my field of endeavor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None at the moment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. It looks fine to me
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing comes to mind. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers being able to use good judgement

- based on each violation.
- Possibly add ranges for the fine based on the number of violations and/or the severity.
 - Publish them.
 - Repeat offenders would not be allowed to have the civil citation.
 - Repeat violations over & over should garner higher fines.
 - Seems fair. If a repeat offender, does that affect the fine?
 - Seems like you should stick to serious violations that actually provide risk to the community like the pool example.
 - "Serious Citations that may have a danger to others should have strict rules and fines.
 - sliding scale by level of safety seems logical
 - Start with a warning for 1st time offences.
 - Stops the fine give people time to repair or replaced
 - The code is based on a violation, all violations should be handled the same way!
 - The upper limit of the Fine Amount must be different between the Civil vs. Criminal Citation.
 - The upper limit of the FINE Amount must be different.
 - they should be laid out in a clear manor that one violation carrier a certain fine and another is a different level and carriers a higher fine.
 - Would not like to be fined for a piece of paper not being posted
 - Yes, we a business owner really intentional trying to avoid then go ahead fine them. I think during this difficult pandemic time a \$1000 may be a bit high. \$500 should be the highest max fine.
 - You guy should allow the owner times to take care of repairs and fine and put people in jail
 - You may want to consider a grace period for minor infractions that do not directly effect public health. For instance in the No Smoking sign situation give the business 48hours to comply if they have a clean record before moving to the \$100 per day fine