



# City Council Report

**Date:** April 19, 2021  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** John Pombier, Assistant City Manger  
**From:** Ken Cost, Police Chief  
Robert Rash, Commander  
**Subject:** Mesa City Code Update – Title 10, Chapter 8, Section 1 - Refusal to Furnish Information or Sign Citation (Citywide)

## **Purpose and Recommendation**

The purpose of this report is to present a request to amend Mesa City Code 10-8-1. The Mesa Police Department recommends making the proposed changes to the Mesa City Code regarding pedestrian civil traffic violators who are currently required to provide their “information” and signature to a citing officer while lawfully detained.

## **Background**

The Mesa Police Department will be implementing an anti-jaywalking campaign to decrease pedestrian deaths which have been on the rise; in 2020, there were 15 pedestrian fatalities. To prevent pedestrian related injuries and fatalities, the City Council recognizes the necessity of officers to educate violators and enforce traffic violations.

## **Discussion**

Pedestrian civil traffic violators are currently required to provide their “information” and signature to a citing officer while lawfully detained. To provide better notice and clarity to visitors and citizens, officers will only be allowed to cite civil traffic violators when they refuse to provide their true full name and date of birth. A violation of 10-8-1 is a class 1 misdemeanor.

The revisions to this code are reasonably necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of visitors and the citizens of the City. Scottsdale, Gilbert and Tempe have substantially similar city codes specifying what kind of information is required to give to a peace officer when lawfully detained.

## **Alternatives**

Leave Mesa City Code 10-8-1 unchanged.

## **Fiscal Impact**

There is no cost to the Mesa Police Department or City of Mesa to update Mesa City Code 10-8-1.

## **Coordinated With**

The City Attorney’s Office’