

# ORIGINAL

WP0319C-ORD  
09/19/94

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 4697

AN ORDINANCE amending the Bellevue City Code through the addition of a new Chapter 5.14, regarding group home operator registration.

WHEREAS, there exists a proven need to provide for special needs housing within the City of Bellevue; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellevue desires to monitor its compliance with applicable directives to provide a complete range of affordable housing for all citizens in accordance with the provisions of the Growth Management Act, RCW 36.70A; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellevue has an interest in monitoring the location of Group Homes to encourage their dispersal throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellevue needs to protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens, including residents of group homes, and to ensure that its codes and ordinances are enforced; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A new chapter is hereby added to the Bellevue City Code, as follows:

5.14.010 Group Home Operator Registration.

5.14.020 Scope: This chapter establishes a registration procedure for operators of group home uses (see section 20.50.022 of the Land Use Code) within the City. Information provided pursuant to this chapter may be subject to public disclosure as required by law.

5.14.030 Applicability: This chapter applies each time a group home operator commences operation of a group home use, as defined in the Bellevue Land Use Code, Section 20.50.022. Group home operators who have established their group home use prior to the effective date of this ordinance must register with the City of Bellevue within 90 days of enactment of this ordinance.

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**5.14.040 Purpose:** The group home operator registration process is a mechanism enabling the City to monitor compliance with affirmative mandates of state and federal law requiring the City to eliminate barriers to the siting of group homes in residential neighborhoods. The process also allows the City to determine that group home operators do not exceed the maximum occupancy levels set by the City, and to otherwise protect the health, safety and welfare of group home clients and other City residents, and to make reasonable accommodation as necessary to afford persons with handicaps equal housing opportunities as required by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988.

**5.14.050 Applicable Procedure:** Concurrent with commencing the operation of a group home within the City, or within 90 days of the enactment of this ordinance if a group home operation was established prior to the effective date of this ordinance, the group home operator must register with the City of Bellevue. At the time of registration, the operator must provide the following information:

- a. The name of the operator.
- b. The name of the group home, if any.
- c. The address and telephone number of the group home and, if different, a confidential telephone number for 24 hour emergency calls, which shall be available to and usable by City staff only.
- d. The telephone number of the operator, if different.
- e. The name and telephone number of the owner of the group home property, if different.
- f. The maximum number of clients and staff to be housed on the premises at any one time.
- g. A brief description of the group home operation, including the client population to be served and, if the duration of client residency at the group home is to be limited, the approximate usual length of stay, provided the operator shall not be required to provide any information on individual residents as a condition of registration.
- h. A true and accurate copy of a current State of Washington license for the facility, as required by the Bellevue Land Use Code.

- i. The classification of the group home pursuant to the definitions set forth in the Land Use Code at section 20.50.022.

5.14.060 Exemption: confidential group homes are exempt from the requirement to register pursuant to this Chapter.

5.14.070 Change In Use: The operator shall notify the City of Bellevue within 30 days if: (a) the client population served, or the maximum number of clients served, changes; (b) the group home ceases operations; (c) the telephone number or address of the group home, the group home operator or the owner of the group home property changes. Upon any regular or special relicensure of a group home operation, the operator shall supply a copy of any revised, reissued or renewed State of Washington License for the facility to the City.

5.14.080 Fee: There is no fee for registration of a group home.

5.14.090 Reregistration: If the group home operator discontinues the group home use for an uninterrupted period of one year, the group home operator registration shall lapse, and a new registration shall be required upon any subsequent commencement of a group home operation. The operator shall provide a true and accurate copy of a current State of Washington license for the facility when reregistering, as required by the Bellevue Land Use Code.

5.14.100 Failure To Comply: Failure to comply with these provisions will constitute a Civil Violation, as provided for in BCC 1.18. The operator will be responsible for paying all fines and costs resulting from such violation. Clients of the home shall not be held responsible for any violation, nor the fines and costs resulting from such violation.

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Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days after passage by the City Council.

PASSED by the City Council this 19th day of September, 1994, and signed in authentication of its passage this 19th day of September, 1994.

(SEAL)

  
Donald S. Davidson, DDS, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Richard L. Andrews, City Attorney

  
~~Richard L. Andrews, Deputy City Attorney~~

Attest:

  
Myrna L. Basich, City Clerk

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