

ORDINANCE NO: 32-2018  
INTRODUCED BY: Mayor Roche

**AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CHAPTER 1351, "MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL EXTERIOR DOORS", OF PART THIRTEEN, "BUILDING CODE," OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Council desires to minimize the opportunity for criminal activity to occur in multiple-family residential buildings located within the City of Richmond Heights; and

WHEREAS, unsecured multiple-family residential buildings pose a risk to both the inhabitants of the multiple-family residential building and the community at large by allowing unauthorized individuals to enter the multiple-family residential building without obtaining permission to do so; and

WHEREAS, Council has determined that security measures should be put in place to secure all exterior doors to multiple-family residential buildings to reduce the risk of criminal activity in multiple-family residential buildings.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Ordained by the Council of the City of Richmond Heights, State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. Part Thirteen, the "Building Code" of the Codified Ordinances of the City, is hereby amended to add a new Chapter 1351, to be entitled "Multiple-Family Residential Exterior Doors, to read as follows:

**"Chapter 1351  
MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL EXTERIOR DOORS**

1351.01 Exterior Door Requirements for Multiple-Family Residential Buildings.

All exterior entry and exit doors in a multiple-family residential building shall be subject to the following requirements:

- (a) Exterior entry and exit doors shall be self-closing and self-locking;
- (b) Exterior entry and exit doors shall be capable of being opened from the inside without the use of a key, and without special knowledge or effort.
- (c) Exterior entry and exit doors shall comply with Chapter 1301 and Chapter 1501 of these Codified Ordinances.
- (d) All locks on exterior entry and exit doors, all self-locking and self-closing exterior entry and exit doors, and all electromagnetic and electrical control systems, such as buzzers, bells or intercom systems, shall be maintained in good and operable condition at all times.

- (e) Exterior entry and exit doors shall not be held in an open or unclosed position at any time.
- (f) An entry or exit door of an individual dwelling unit is not subject to this Chapter.

1351.99      Penalty.

Whoever violates any of the provisions of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. Each day's violation shall constitute a separate offense."

SECTION 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the City of Richmond Heights, and for the further reason that it is necessary to immediately secure multiple-family residential buildings to prevent criminal activity; wherefore, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED: March 27, 2018

  
David H. Roche, Mayor

APPROVED: March 27, 2018

ATTEST: Betsy Traben  
Betsy Traben  
Clerk of Council

  
Eloise Cotton-Henry  
President of Council