

RESOLUTION 1336

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING A FLAG DISPLAY POLICY

WHEREAS, the city council adopted Resolution 1291 on September 11, 2023, to memorialize a policy regarding which flags are displayed and when and how flags are flown or lowered to half-staff inside and outside of city facilities; and

WHEREAS, the city council declares that the flagpoles and other city infrastructure included in this policy are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public, but rather as a non-public forum for displaying flags as required by law and for the expression of the city's official government speech, or both; and

WHEREAS, the city council desires to amend the flag display policy to include flag displays at the Welcome Plaza located at the intersection of Stinson Avenue and Pioneer Way and within the Gig Harbor Police Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor:

Section 1. The display policy as set forth the in Exhibit A is hereby adopted.


Section 2. Resolution 1334 is hereby repealed.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor at a regular meeting thereof, held this 9th day of June, 2025.



Mary K. Barber
Mayor

Attest:



Joshua Stecker, CMC
City Clerk

City of Gig Harbor Flag Display Policy

Flags Allowed to be Displayed

It is the intent of this policy to provide guidance for the display of the following flags at city owned or operated facilities within the City of Gig Harbor:

- A. The flag of the United States as defined in [4 U.S.C. 1](#).
- B. The flag of the state of Washington as defined in RCW [1.20.010](#).
- C. The National League of Families' Prisoners of War/Missing in Action (POW-MIA) flag as defined in [36 U.S.C. 902](#).
- D. The Pride flag
- E. The Puyallup Tribe of Indians flag
- F. The Gig Harbor Police Department flag
- G. Sister city flags

All flags shall be displayed in compliance with the flag code as defined in [4 U.S.C. 1](#). Any flag not identified in this policy may not be displayed on city owned or operated facilities.

Time and occasions for display

- A. The flag of the United States shall be displayed on all days at the following locations:
 - 1. On a flagpole outside of the front doors of the Civic Center
 - 2. On the flagpole at Skansie Brothers Park
 - 3. On the flagpole at Kenneth Leo Marvin Veterans Memorial Park;
 - 4. On the flagpole at the Welcome Plaza located at the intersection of Stinson Avenue and Pioneer Way
 - 5. On a stanchion in council chambers
 - 6. On a stanchion within the Gig Harbor Police Department

In addition, the flag of the United States may be displayed seasonally on street lights and utility poles, at the discretion of the mayor. United States flags measuring less than 12" in length may be displayed for special events or seasonally in city parks and facilities, at the discretion of the mayor.

- B. The flag of the state of Washington shall be displayed on all days at the following locations:
 - 1. On a flagpole outside of the front doors of the Civic Center
 - 2. On a stanchion in council chambers
 - 3. On a stanchion within the Gig Harbor Police Department
- C. On the dates designated in RCW 1.20.017, the National League of Families' POW-MIA flag shall be displayed at the following locations:
 - 1. On a flagpole outside of the front doors of the Civic Center beneath the flag of the United States.

2. On the flagpole at Kenneth Leo Marvin Veterans Memorial Park beneath the flag of the United States.

If the designated day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, then the POW-MIA flag will be displayed on the preceding Friday. If the designated day is a city holiday, then the flag will be displayed starting on the last business day preceding the holiday and will be removed on the next business day following the holiday.

- D. The Pride flag shall be displayed on a flagpole outside of the front doors of the Civic Center during the month of June, except that the Pride flag shall not be displayed on the same flagpole as the flag of the United States, unless no other flagpole is available. The Pride flag shall also be displayed on a stanchion in council chambers during the month of June. The specific Pride flag displayed by the city should be consistent with the Pride flag displayed at the State Capitol.
- E. The Puyallup Tribe of Indians flag shall be displayed on a stanchion in council chambers during the months of October and November.
- F. The Gig Harbor Police Department flag shall be displayed on a stanchion within the Gig Harbor Police Department.
- G. Flags of Gig Harbor's sister cities may be displayed at the discretion of the mayor during official visits from sister city delegations.

Display of Flags during Municipal Court Proceedings

The municipal court judge retains the discretion to remove any flag from council chambers during municipal court proceedings, except for the flags of the United States and the state of Washington, in accordance with Washington state court general rules.

Display of Flags at Half-Staff

Flags on the flagpole outside of the Civic Center, on the flagpole at Skansie Brothers Park, on the flagpole at Kenneth Leo Marvin Veterans Memorial Park, and on the flagpole at the Welcome Plaza located at the intersection of Stinson Avenue and Pioneer Way shall be lowered to half-staff in accordance with any direction issued by the governor of the state of Washington, with the provision that the raising and lowering of flags shall occur during regular business hours.

In addition, the mayor may direct flags to be lowered to half-staff in recognition of events of local significance.