



Youth Protection Ordinance

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

AUGUST 10, 2026



CMPD Recommendations

- ◀ **Increase the curfew age to include all minors (persons under the age of 18).**
- ◀ **Lower the curfew time to 9:00 p.m. every day of the week.**
- ◀ **Exceptions to the curfew remain the same.**

Procedural History

- ◀ **June 30, 2026:** Mayor Lyles signed a policy referral requesting that the Safety Committee review the City's existing Youth Protection Ordinance to determine what actions the City can take to mitigate public safety issues associated with juvenile curfew violations
- ◀ **July 14, 2026:** The Safety Committee held a special meeting where they unanimously voted to advance CMPD's proposed updates to the Youth Protection Ordinance:
 - Update the curfew to include all minors (ages 17 and below)
 - Lower the restricted hours to 9:00 p.m. any day of the week

Youth Protection Ordinance: Sec. 15-152. - Restricted Hours

◀Ages 12 and under:

- Any day of the week, from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. of the following day.

◀Ages 13, 14, and 15:

- Any day of the week, from 11:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. of the following day.

Sec. 15-153. - Offenses

◀Juvenile

◀Parent or guardian

◀Owner, operator, or any employee of an establishment

◀Any person 16 years of age or older to aid or abet a juvenile

◀For a parent or guardian to refuse to take custody of a juvenile

Sec. 15-154. - Exceptions

- ◀ Accompanied by parent, guardian, or an authorized adult 21 years of age or older
- ◀ Running an errand at the parent/guardian's direction
- ◀ Employment activity, or direct route to/from work
- ◀ Responding to an emergency
- ◀ Attending/traveling to or from an official school, religious, or recreational activity that is supervised by adults and sponsored by a public or private school, the city or other governmental entity, or civic organization

Benchmarking Curfews

North Carolina

- ◀ **Winston-Salem**
 - 17 y.o. and younger
 - 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- ◀ **Raleigh**
 - Pending: 17 y.o. and younger for 10:00 p.m. or 11:00 p.m.

Other Cities

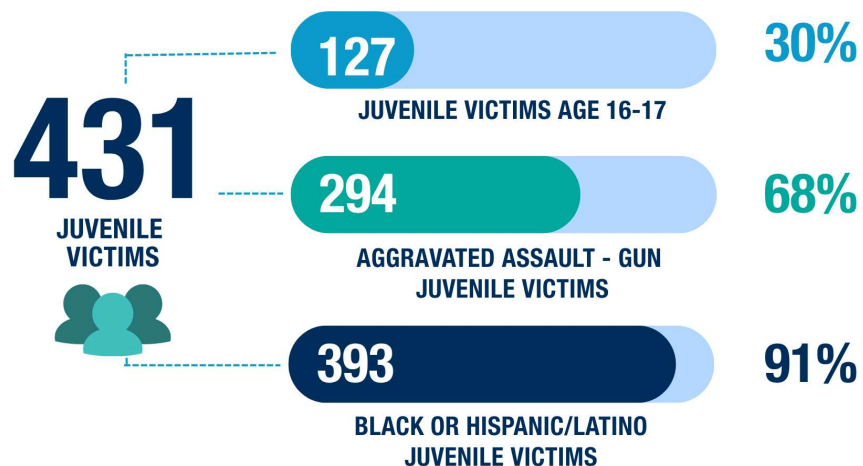
- ◀ **Myrtle Beach, SC**
 - 17 y.o. and younger
 - City-wide: midnight
 - Downtown: 9:00 p.m.
- ◀ **Atlanta, GA**
 - 17y.o. and younger
 - Sunday through Thursday: 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.;
 - Friday and Saturday: midnight to 6:00 a.m.
- ◀ **Nashville, TN**
 - Under 18 y.o.
 - Sunday through Thursday: 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.
 - Friday and Saturday: 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.
 - Summer exception: all curfews are from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. (June 1 to August 31)

Teen Takeovers

- ◀ Advertised planned meet-ups for juveniles in public places
- ◀ Often coordinated via social media
- ◀ Frequently result in disorderly conduct, public affrays, impeding traffic, assaults, and other violent crimes
- ◀ CMPD has tracked approximately 40 Teen Takeover advertisements since May.

Juvenile Violent Crime Victimization Overview FY2026 (7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026)

Juvenile victims between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. in outdoor locations, including non-aggravated assaults



Considerations for Restricted Hours

Alternative	Challenges
SNAP	• CMPD would need to rely on unvetted social media information. • Labor-intensive across multiple CMPD units • Requires multiple layers of review before implementation
Tiered Age Group	• No method to verify age provided by the youth • Lack of identification cards makes enforcement challenging
Geographic	• Requires constant redeployment of CMPD resources • Last-minute coordination with property management • Creates potential for traveling takeovers

CMPD's Community Services Bureau

- ◀ Police Activities League
- ◀ REACH (Respect, Engage, Accountability, Character & Honesty)
- ◀ Teen Summer Jam
- ◀ National Night Out



Office of Youth Opportunities



2025-2026 Highlights	What's Next
Expanded Career Experiences through strategic outreach	Develop a partnership grant to support organizations providing safe third spaces
Increased access to safe recreation and third spaces [200 YMCA passes (2025) and 250 County Park & Rec Teen Passes (2026)]	Coordinate and promote youth activities during teacher workdays through partners and SchoolsOutCLT.org
Strengthened prevention and intervention through the Youth Violence Prevention Campaign, Youth Diversion Program, and Alternatives to Violence outreach in three priority communities	Expand programming & partnerships: YMCA Teen Activation Center programming, neighborhood-based programming, and continued County partnerships

Goal: Increase access to opportunities, safe spaces, and trusted support by meeting young people where they are

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Next Steps



TODAY:
ACTION PREVIEW



SECOND READING AND
VOTE



EDUCATION AND
IMPLEMENTATION

Questions and Discussion