

Basketball hoops, and similar items, in the public right-of-way are regulated by both the Nuisance and Encroachment Sections of your City's Municipal Code.....

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

- ⇒ Obstructions or encroachments on any public property, including, but not limited to, public streets, sidewalks, highways, right-of-ways, and parks or buildings are a nuisance. Such obstructions or encroachments include, but are not limited to, overgrown trees and shrub, building materials, merchandise or **other personal property**.
- ⇒ It is unlawful for any person to place an encroachment of any kind within the public street right-of-way without first having obtained an encroachment permit to do so from the city engineer*.
- ⇒ “Encroachment” means any type of construction or work or the **placing of any object or thing, whether permanent or temporary**, within a public street.
- ⇒ “Public street” includes any public right of way, highway, street, sidewalk, easement, or other area or thoroughfare, whether improved or unimproved, which is owned by or under the control of the city.

City of West Sacramento

Community Development Department
1110 West Capitol Avenue, 2nd Floor
West Sacramento CA 95691

Basketball Hoops & Other Encroachments

Having a portable basketball hoop at home is a great way to encourage both family and neighborhood fun and fitness but there are several factors to consider to ensure your hoop, or similar item, is displayed in a way that is safe, useable, and still be within the West Sacramento Municipal Code.



Am I allowed to have a basketball hoop at my house?

Because basketball hoops, and other temporary and portable sports items, are defined as “play” equipment, they do not require building permits or zoning authorization as long as they are used for the intended purpose and stored completely on private property and out of any easement.

There are several things to consider, however.

- ⇒ **Is my hoop stored upright, and level?** Basketball hoops and tetherball poles are top heavy and represent a tipping hazard. Since most driveways are far from level, ensure the base is appropriately weighted and supported for safety.
- ⇒ **Can my hoop overhang the sidewalk?** In some areas, a properly displayed basketball hoop on private property can still result in the rim and net overhanging the sidewalk or street. The Fire Code requires an 8 feet clearance over any street or sidewalk for vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic.



Can I get an encroachment permit for my hoop?

*As described in the City of West Sacramento’s Municipal Code, **no** encroachment may be placed in the City street, easement, or other public right-of-way without approval of an encroachment permit by the City Engineer. Encroachment permits are typically reserved for construction projects (i.e. gutter improvements, sidewalk repairs, or secondary driveways) or for large items stored for temporary reasons (i.e. dumpsters).

Because basketball hoops, soccer nets, tetherball poles, or other similar types of sports equipment are portable, but not necessarily temporary, this type of play equipment would **not** be considered for an encroachment permit. Although the City does not expressly prohibit playing in the street, it must not encourage it either, due to the potential traffic hazard.

Beware, a working definition of the public right-of-way is the area from the back of a sidewalk on one side of the street to the back of the sidewalk on the other side of the street. This **includes** the landscaping strip or “mow strip” areas located in those neighborhoods between the sidewalk and roadway.

- ⇒ **Does my CC&R’s allow me to have a basketball hoop?** The City only enforces violations of the Municipal Code. CC&R’s are civil regulations in nature, and you may have neighborhood or homeowner’s associations that prohibit owning sports equipment or placing them on any private street, especially in a gated communities.

What happens if I don’t move my basketball hoop?

Like most violations of the City’s Municipal Code, basketball hoop complaints start when the Code Enforcement Division receives a report.

Complaints are received by phone call to the Code Enforcement Complaint line (916-617-4925) or generated on-line via the City’s website: <https://clients.comcate.com/newrequest.php?id=103>

Your voluntary compliance is our goal. In every case you will be given at least one warning to remove your hoop (or other encroachment) from the right-of-way. Should you fail to remove the encroachment before the re-inspection date, you could receive a citation with fines of \$120, \$220, or \$520 per violation, per day, and the hoop may be removed by the City at owner expense. **Beware**, any future violations may also be cited **without further warning**.

Contact Us

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Or visit us on the web:
www.cityofwestsacramento.org