

Crosswalk Rule Journey

Trace how a local ordinance moves from an idea to a rule.

L6-8RHSS3 "Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the key steps in the ordinance process from first to last. Underline words or phrases that show why a step happened or what happened next.

A Safer Crossing Ordinance

- ① Riverton residents wanted safer crossings near a busy library. A council member listened to their concerns and asked city staff to draft a proposed ordinance. The draft named two streets, explained the new crosswalk rules, and estimated costs. Before the council could vote, the city clerk placed the proposal on a meeting agenda. Publishing the agenda let residents know when the council would discuss the plan and gave them time to read it before the meeting.
- ② At the scheduled meeting, council members introduced the ordinance and heard public comments. Residents could support the plan, raise concerns, or suggest changes. After the hearing, the council discussed the evidence from traffic staff and decided whether to revise the wording. Because one crossing needed a clearer rule, members changed that section. They did not take a final vote that night, giving the clerk time to prepare the revised version for a later meeting date.
- ③ At the next meeting, the clerk read the revised ordinance aloud. Council members then voted. A majority vote approved the ordinance, so the mayor received it. In Riverton's process, the mayor could sign the ordinance or return it unsigned with objections. The mayor signed it. The clerk published the new rule, and city workers scheduled the crosswalk work. The ordinance took effect on the date written in the law after a required public notice period had ended.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What did city staff do first, and what did the city clerk do next before the council discussed the proposal?

2 How did the public hearing lead to a change in the ordinance?

3 Put these steps in order after the final vote: the mayor signs, the clerk publishes the rule, and the ordinance takes effect.

4 Why did the council wait to take its final vote until a later meeting?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a community issue. Write a numbered four-step process showing how a resident can contact a city council member about the issue and follow up. Include the purpose of one step.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Number the key steps in the ordinance process from first to last. Underline words or phrases that show why a step happened or what happened next. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did city staff do first, and what did the city clerk do next before the council discussed the proposal?	City staff drafted the proposed ordinance. Next, the city clerk placed the proposal on a meeting agenda.
2	How did the public hearing lead to a change in the ordinance?	After hearing public comments, the council discussed traffic staff evidence and changed the section about one crossing because it needed a clearer rule.
3	Put these steps in order after the final vote: the mayor signs, the clerk publishes the rule, and the ordinance takes effect.	First the mayor signs the ordinance. Next the clerk publishes the rule. Last, the ordinance takes effect after the required public notice period.
4	Why did the council wait to take its final vote until a later meeting?	The council waited so the clerk could prepare the revised version of the ordinance.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

1. I would list the places where a sidewalk is broken and take notes, so I can clearly explain the safety problem. 2. I would find my city council member's email on the city website. 3. I would send a respectful message asking for repairs. 4. I would attend a public meeting or check for a reply, then follow up if needed.

Accept any logical, numbered four-step civic process that moves from identifying an issue to contacting a council member and following up. The plan should include a clear purpose for at least one step.