



Administrative Report

H.9., File # 20-1225

Meeting Date: 9/1/2020

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: JOHN LA ROCK, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

TITLE

ADOPT BY TITLE ONLY ORDINANCE NO. O-3204-20, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 4, CHAPTER 35 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW DOGS IN SPECIFIED PARKS UNDER IMPOSED CONDITIONS. FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At their meeting on February 18, 2020, the City Council unanimously approved an amendment to the City's parks rules to allow dogs in certain locations within certain City parks.

At their meeting on August 18, 2020, the City Council held a Public Hearing to introduce and conduct a 1st reading of Ordinance No. O-3204-20 to modify the current park rules and effectuate the allowance of dogs in certain parks. The amendment to the Municipal Code identifies those parks and parkettes in which dogs would be permitted, as well as areas within those parks where dogs would be prohibited. The Code amendment also includes the regulations governing dog handlers while in the City's parks in an effort to maintain a safe, sanitary and rejuvenating experience for all park users.

Ordinance No. 3204-20 is recommended for 2nd reading and adoption to amend the Municipal Code pertaining to dogs in certain City parks. Following 2nd reading and adoption, the Municipal Code amendment would become effective thirty (30) days following the date of tonight's meeting, or on October 1, 2020.

Additionally, at their meeting on August 18, 2020, the City Council provided direction for staff to provide a status report to the City Council approximately one year from the effective date of the new ordinance regarding outcomes and impacts of the policy change.

BACKGROUND

Following thorough research and reporting by members of the Recreation and Parks Commission, the Commission made a recommendation to the City Council regarding a change to the City's Municipal Code to allow dogs in certain City parks.

At their meeting on February 18, 2020, the City Council received a report on the Recreation and Parks Commission's recommendations regarding dogs in parks. Following the presentation and public comment, the City Council ultimately provided unanimous approval for an amendment to the

City's Municipal Code allowing dogs in the following parks and parkettes:

PARKS

Andrews
Czuleger
Dale Page
Dominguez
Franklin
Lilenthal
Perry Allison
Vincent

PARKETTES

Redondo Bikepath
Flagler/Ripley
General Eaton A
Greene
Gregg
Huntington
La Paz
Massena
Matthews
McNeill/Jaycee
Rivera
Townsend

Additionally, at the February 18, 2020 meeting, the City Council unanimously approved those areas within the parks and parkettes that would be prohibited to dogs. These off-limits areas are generally inclusive of playgrounds, recurrent special event areas, sports fields, monuments and park facilities, including restrooms.

The City Council's unanimous approval also included regulations pertaining to the presence of dogs in certain parks and parkettes. The regulations include, but are not limited to:

- Dogs are to be licensed and vaccinated
- Dogs are on a leash of no more than 6 ft. at all times
- Dogs are under the control of a handler at all times
- Dog handlers clean up and properly dispose of all dog waste
- Dogs are not permitted in designated park facilities
- Dog activity is recreational only; dog training, obedience or related programming is prohibited

Adherence to the regulations pertaining to dogs in parks will largely be a matter of personal responsibility by those handling dogs in certain City parks. Typically, in order for City Code Enforcement or Police personnel to address a violation of Code regulations for City parks they must be able to witness the activity in real time. A dog handler who does not have a dog on a leash or who fails to clean up after a dog will likely have exited the park prior to the timing of responding City enforcement personnel. City Community Services and Public Works personnel do not provide enforcement. However, Community Services will engage the community through an education campaign about allowing dogs in certain parks, the rules for that policy, and to encourage good behavior by all users to help keep the parks safe and clean.

At their meeting on August 18, 2020, the City Council held a Public Hearing to introduce and conduct a 1st reading of Ordinance No. O-3204-20 to amend the Municipal Code to add those parks and parkettes previously approved by the City Council to allow dogs, as well as to regulate areas in the parks where dogs are not permitted, and to describe the regulations governing dogs in parks. The minutes from the August 18, 2020 City Council meeting are not available due to the timing of this

report.

To assist dog handlers with the management of fecal matter and to support the cleanliness of the parks for all users, the Public Works Department anticipates the installation of dog waste bag dispensers in those parks permitting dogs. On average, a park would be recommended to receive 3 dog waste bag dispensers; parkettes would be recommended to receive 1 dog waste bag dispenser. The exact number and placement of dispensers will be determined for each park space and be partially based on the available public entry points. The expense for one dog waste bag dispenser is \$165. It is estimated that with normal use, dispensers expend 3 cases of waste bags per year at an annual cost of \$195 per dispenser. However, given the City's experience with the dog waste dispensers on the Esplanade, along with the tendency of users to remove more than one bag at a time, it would be recommended that waste bag inventory for dispensers in parks and parkettes be 5 cases per year at an annual cost of \$325 per dispenser. Given the number of parks and parkettes included in the ordinance to allow dogs, the set-up and supply costs are \$17,640 for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and \$11,700 for each subsequent Fiscal Year. A detail of the projected expenses is included in the Fiscal Impact section of this report.

Staff recommends the City Council conduct a 2nd reading and adopt by title only Ordinance No. O-3204-20 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Redondo Beach, California, amending Title 4, Chapter 35 (Parks and Recreation Facilities) of the Municipal Code pertaining to Dogs in Parks.

Following action by the City Council to adopt the Ordinance, the Ordinance would become effective thirty (30) days from the date of tonight's meeting, or on October 1, 2020.

At their meeting on August 18, 2020 the City Council provided direction that staff present a status report on outcomes and impacts at a City Council meeting one year from the effective date of the Ordinance.

COORDINATION

This report was prepared by the Community Services Department. The City Attorney's office provided legal analysis and approved the ordinance as to form.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Public Works Department has considered the impacts of allowing dogs in certain City parks and anticipates the procurement of new park infrastructure to dispense dog waste bags as well as the ongoing procurement of dog waste bag inventory.

Expenses

Dog waste bag dispensers	\$ 5,940 (one-time expense)
Dog waste bags	\$11,700 (ongoing annual expense)
Total	\$17,640 (one-time and ongoing expense)

The projected expenses for dog waste bag dispensers and dog waste bag inventory are not included in the FY 2020-21 Public Works Budget. Public Works may present a future report requesting a budget modification to appropriate the necessary funding to procure, install and supply dog waste

dispensers in those parks that allow dogs. Additionally, staff is analyzing the current wayfinding and rules signage in those parks that will allow dogs to determine the most economical method to retrofit the existing signage with updated information pertaining to dogs in parks and the rules therein. The expenses for the potential retrofit are not available for the timing of this report.

APPROVED BY:

Joe Hoefgen, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ordinance No. O-3204-20