



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** October 5, 2020
SUBJECT: Recommend amending Article 1 of Chapter 62 of the North Richland Hills Code of Ordinances and the Rules and Regulations applicable to Parks, and forward a recommendation to City Council for their consideration.
PRESENTER: Vickie Loftice, Managing Director

SUMMARY:

Staff recommends amendments to Article I, Chapter 62 of the North Richland Hills Park and Recreation Code of Ordinances.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The sections listed below were reviewed with the Park Board in June 2018. The highlighted sections incorporate additional revisions to the existing ordinances.

For a complete listing of Chapter 62- Parks and Recreation Code of Ordinances go to:
https://library.municode.com/tx/north_richland_hills/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH62PARE

Staff will review the proposed changes with the Parks and Recreation Board.

Sec. 62-2. - Alcoholic beverages

Except as provided below, no person shall sell, consume or possess alcoholic beverages in any city park or park facility without approval by the City Manager or his designee. Alcoholic beverages are allowed for City sponsored events. Upon approval, alcohol is allowed at the following sites subject to the following conditions:

- The NRH Centre and Civic Plaza located at 6000 Hawk Ave;
- Stormy Plaza located at 9010 Grand Ave for special events;
- Song Space Amphitheatre located at 9000 Grand Ave., for concerts and special events;

- NRH 2 O located at 9001 Boulevard 26, after normal operating hours. Alcohol shall only be permitted during private and exclusive events.
- (1) All sales shall be by a vendor approved by the city with all applicable licenses.
 - (2) Alcoholic beverages will not be consumed except at events for which permission has been granted as required by city policies.

Sec. 62-11. - Prohibited activities

- (11) *Animals.* Riding, driving, leading or letting loose any animal, reptile or fowl of any kind, except in designated areas. These restrictions shall not apply to dogs and cats when restrained by a leash. Such leash shall at all times serve as a connection between the dog or animal and the person that accompanies the dog or other animal. The person accompanying the animal must be in control of the animal at all times. No person shall tie or restrain an animal by attaching its leash to fencing, trees, benches, bleachers, poles or other park facility infrastructure.

Riding or leading a horse or horses within any park or on any trail owned or leased by the City is prohibited except within Little Bear Creek Park. Horses may not be on the trails. Dogs and other animals are not permitted inside park facility buildings, playground areas or athletic fields. Any person accompanying a dog or other animal shall immediately clean up any feces left by such animal. A person commits an offense if the owner or person that accompanies an animal fails to visibly have in his or her possession, materials that can be used to immediately remove and dispose of any feces the animal produces. Animals that are trained to assist the disabled persons are permitted in all park facilities.

- (12) *Swimming, boating and fishing in parks.*
 - a. It shall be unlawful for any person to utilize any creek, pond, lake, stream or any other body of water in any park in the city to, among other things, swim in, boat in, wade in, or pollute any creek, pond, lake, stream or any other body of water in any park in the city unless such activity is specifically authorized and permitted by the parks and recreation director and/or any other regulation and policy. Vessels or watercraft, including but not limited to, powerboats, canoes, kayaks, floating devices, or any such equipment capable of navigation on water are not permitted in city lakes, ponds, creeks and channels except at HomeTown Lakes where non-motorized canoes and kayaks are permitted.

- (13) *Motor vehicle and motorized device use.*
 - b. *Motorized devices.* A person commits an offense by operating, driving, or riding any motorized device in a park or on a trail, other than on improved roads, streets, or parking lots. This provision is not applicable to motorized devices owned or leased by the city, motorized devices that have received a city permit authorizing its operation, golf carts operated on a city maintained golf course, segways or electric hybrid bicycles, or motorized devices used to assist disabled or physically impaired individuals.
- (18) *Possession of Glass Beverages.* It shall be unlawful for any person to possess any glass beverage container in any park or on any trail owned or leased by the City.
- (19) *Leaping or Jumping from a Bridge or Structure.* It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly or intentionally leap or jump from any bridge, pier, abutment, or structure into or towards a body of water or the ground below.

Sec. 62-12. - Activities requiring a permit or facility use agreement.

- (3) *Commercial or business activities.* It shall be unlawful to conduct any commercial or business activities of any kind, or provide any fitness programs, activity instruction, or athletic instruction in any park, athletic field or city owned or leased facility for which any compensation is received, participation or admission fee is charged or revenue is otherwise derived, or distribute commercial promotional materials or advertising, without first obtaining a permit from the Director of Parks and Recreation, or the Director's designee.
- (10) *Non-sponsored organized groups.*
 - a. Operating or sponsoring a non-sponsored organized group activity in a city park, athletic field, parking lot or facility, is unlawful, unless the operator first obtains a permit from the Director of Parks and Recreation, or the Director's designee.
 - b. For the purposes of this section, "non-sponsored organized group activity" means an organized group not officially recognized by, permitted through or contracted with the city Parks and Recreation Department that is engaged in various athletic activities, including but not limited to gaming events, baseball, softball, kickball, volleyball, football, soccer, or frisbee.

Sec. 62-13. - Dog parks.

- (1) *Establishment.* The city manager, or the city manager's designee, may establish a dog park or dog parks within the city and adopt rules and regulations that govern the use and enjoyment of the dog park.
- (2) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Animal shall have the meaning ascribed to it by Chapter 14 of the City Code of Ordinances.

Animal services officer shall have the meaning ascribed to it by Chapter 14 of the City Code of Ordinances.

Dog park means a public park that is specifically designated by the city as a place for dogs to exercise and play off-leash in a controlled environment under the supervision, possession, or control of their owner(s).

Owner/handler means any person who supervises, controls, or possesses any dog confined in a dog park. Any person supervising, controlling, or possessing any dog confined in a dog park is presumed to be the owner of such dog for the purpose of this division.

- (3) *Liability.* Users of the dog park do so at their own risk and are legally responsible for their dogs and any injury or damage caused to their dog or caused by their dog.
- (4) *Dog Park Hours.* The dog park shall have posted hours of operation. It shall be unlawful to enter the dog park outside of the posted hours of operation.
- (5) *Enforcement.* The city manager, or the city manager's designee, the director of parks and recreation, animal services officers, or law enforcement officers shall be authorized to enforce this ordinance.
- (6) *Violations.* It shall be unlawful to violate the dog park rules and regulations set forth in this ordinance and any rules and regulations approved by the city manager or his designee. Violators shall be subject to a citation and



fine up to \$500 in accordance with Section 1-13 of the Code of Ordinances, or suspension or removal from the dog park.

Sec. 62-14. - Establishment of other rules and regulations.

The parks and recreation department may adopt additional rules, regulations, and policies governing the management, approval process, and operation or use of parks facilities. A current copy of those rules and regulations shall be maintained on file in the administrative offices of the parks and recreation department, available on the city's website, and posted at any respective park by the director of parks and recreation. Violations of rules posted at particular sites shall constitute grounds for eviction from the facility as well as an offense punishable under Section 1-13 of the Code of Ordinances.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend amending Article 1 of Chapter 62 of the North Richland Hills Code of Ordinances and the Rules and Regulations Applicable to Parks, and forward a recommendation to City Council for their consideration.