



MEMO TO: Members of the City Council

FROM: Mayor John Marchione

DATE: January 2, 2018

SUBJECT: Adoption of Ordinance No. XXX Repealing RMC 9.32, Parks and Enacting RMC 9.31, Park Rules and Adoption of a Resolution to Institute a Bail Schedule Related to RMC 9.31 Park Rules

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt an ordinance enacting RMC 9.31, Park Rules and repealing RMC 9.32, Parks; and adopt a resolution institute a corresponding bail schedule related to RMC 9.31, Park Rules.

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Maxine Whattam, Parks Director, 425-556-2310

Kristy Wilson, Police Chief, 425-556-2529

Carolyn Hope, Park Planning & Cultural Arts Manager, 425-556-2313

David Shaw, Senior Park Planner, 425-556-2378

III. DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

RMC 9.32 Parks, addresses civil and criminal behaviors on City park lands and trails. The last revisions of the section occurred over twenty years ago. RMC 9.31, Park Rules, provides an update to the rules to support recent and upcoming changes in the parks system, operation practices, and programming. The new code will clarify and modernize existing code language, add new rules to address current and foreseen issues, and removes rules and language that are no longer relevant. The new code is intended to maximize positive behaviors in City parks and trails, keep public places feeling safe welcoming to all people, and maintain the high quality of park maintenance and cleanliness. A bail schedule (a list of citation fees associated with civil infractions) has also been created to accompany the new code chapter and will be filed at the King County District Court, Redmond Courthouse. While the bail schedule is associated with the code, it is filed and adopted separately to allow flexibility in modifying the fees as needed. If adopted, the new code and bail schedule will become effective on March 31, 2018, (see details in “Time Constraints”).

An inter-departmental team of staff from Parks and Recreation, Police, Planning and Community Development, and Communications developed the code revision and bail schedule.

An update to RMC 9.33 regarding camping restrictions on City properties is also currently underway and is being coordinated with the adoption of RMC 9.31.

Proposed code changes are based on feedback received during a public engagement process. The effort included outreach to peer agencies, Commissions, the City Council, and the general public. A project webpage (www.redmond.gov/parkrules) was created and launched in June 2017 to provide information about this effort and an informal poll where over 370 respondents provided feedback on the specific changes being studied. While developing concepts and code language, City staff also met with eastside cities and King County staff members, and researched other city park rules, in order to understand what other agencies are doing to update their park rules and learn what has worked well.

In November, staff reported to the City Council on the new code language and reviewed key changes that are included. Staff have since finalized an appeal process for persons ejected/trespassed from park or trail properties and has finalized a bail schedule associated with civil infractions listed in RMC 9.31. The final appeal process language and bail schedule were discussed with the Parks and Human Services Committee and are included in the attachments.

IV. PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS HELD

Previous Council and Committee Meetings:

Body	Date
City Council Briefing	April 4
Public Safety Committee Briefing	April 18
City Council Study Session	May 23
Parks & Human Services Committee Briefing	June 6
Parks & Human Services Committee Briefing	August 2
Public Safety Committee Briefing	August 15
City Council Study Session	September 26
Parks & Human Services Committee Briefing	November 11
Parks & Human Service Committee Briefing	December 5
City Council Staff Report	December 5

Staff have also briefed the Parks and Trails Commission on March 30th, June 1st, August 3rd, September 18th and on November 2, 2017, the Commission passed a motion to recommend these proposed changes to the City Council.

V. IMPACT

A. Service/Delivery:

The update of this section of the RMC will give the Parks and Recreation Department and Police the legal tools needed to support desired behaviors on City

park lands; keep parks welcoming, safe and inviting to all users, and; protect the public investment in City parks.

B. Fiscal Note:

There are no fiscal impacts at this time.

VI. ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Alternatives to adopting the recommended code include:

1. Adopting the proposed code and/or bail schedule with changes as discussed during the January 2, 2018, City Council meeting.
2. Do not adopt the proposed code and/or bail schedule, thereby keeping the current RMC 9.32 in place.

VII. TIME CONSTRAINTS

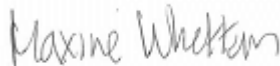
Staff recommends the codification of the revised RMC chapter in January 2018. This target is being driven by the opening of Downtown Park, scheduled for summer 2018. It would be beneficial for the updated park rules to be in place well before the opening of the new park to give Police and Parks staff ample time to become familiar with them beforehand.

The effective date of RMC 9.31 is being set to March 31, 2018. Staff training on the new code and establishment of standard responses will occur between the time of codification and the effective date.

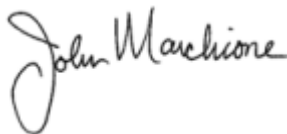
VIII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Ordinance adopting RMC 9.31 Park Rules

Attachment B: Resolution adoption a Bail Schedule Related to RMC 9.31, Park Rules



Maxine Whattam, Director of Parks and Recreation



Approved for Agenda _____

John Marchione, Mayor