

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Amend Park Exclusion Code to clarify ejection and exclusion processes from city parks to improve parks management and safety at park facilities (Ordinance; amend Code Section 20.12.265)

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

This legislation is being proposed to increase the length of exclusion in Parks for security and safety concerns that are impacting our bureau and community. These code violations include: harassment, disorderly conduct, vandalism over \$1,000 and intimidation against protected classes. Exclusions have increased within our bureau along with Portland Police Bureau's crime statistics of repeat offenders and travelers creating a hostile environment in public spaces.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

Portland Park Rangers have had the ability to enforce Title 20 since the inception of the program. The amendment to this code will not have a financial impact to the service that is currently being provided the City. Along with the amendment of this ordinance there would be a positive impact financially with the following: camp cleanups, repeat vandalism, and the cost of appeals when citizens protest exclusions.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The change in ordinance will impact houseless travelers to Portland that are unfamiliar with city code and policy. This change will also improve security and nuisance activity impacting the community and or business. When this ordinance was originated there were some community concern expressed by the ACLU (American Civic Liberties Union) in regard to the potential impact on the under-represented communities within the City.

The following impact statements were corresponded to us from our partners in the Portland Police Bureau. They suggested advocating that the exclusions be extended to three years. If it is reduced to a year, that would effectively render them powerless to address the great volume of travelers who inhabit our City only in the summer months. The traveler is able to habitually violate the law every summer and the consequences would remain minimal. We have witnessed a return to the park after we have good cause to exclude them for illegal behavior. There are 278 other parks and natural areas available for enjoyment in Portland that can be used after being excluded from just one Park. We use this as a tool to prevent future bad behavior. Often, the appeals process is used as a way to stay in the Park(s) for another several months, the change would in turn benefit enforcement activities for both bureaus.

100% Renewable Goal:

This does not apply to this legislation.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- YES:** Please complete the information below.
- NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount

Summary: update to Title 20 exclusion process

What will the update do?

1. New exclusion procedures for facilities, including community centers, and body-sensitive spaces like locker rooms and pools.

2. Identifies certain violations that are more serious, including:
 - Abuse of children, older adults, and people with a mental illness or developmental disabilities,
 - Bias crimes,
 - Crimes against other persons or staff, and
 - Serious property damage.

3. Clarifies which Parks staff are authorized to issue exclusions.

4. Allows more flexibility for exclusion length, including if a person has a prior park violation or engages in serious offenses.

5. Retains due process rights.

What will remain unchanged?

6. Park and open space procedures will remain largely unchanged except for more serious violations identified above.