



Amend Parks & Recreation Code to update and add Park Rules, align with Charter transition, and allow civil penalties

Repeal and Replace Title 20



VIBRANT COMMUNITIES
Parks | Children | Nature | Arts



How we got here

- Staff began this review in 2022
- Over 12 months, conducted internal meetings with Parks Natural Areas and Land Stewardship staff, and Park Rangers
- Analyzed top community complaint data and Park Ranger nuisance behavior report data
- Parks Board Discussions
 - Presented to Parks Board in 2023 and 2024
 - Held working sessions with interested Board members



Overview of the updates

Safer parks

- Addressing consistent community and staff complaints
- Adding civil penalty tool to address certain park rule violations that impact the visitor experience and park resources

Clearer language

- Resolving conflicts in the code
- Adding plain language and clarity to reduce confusion
- Addressing new and emerging technology

Charter alignment

- Conforming to new Charter



Notable updates

1. Charter-required updates, including technical changes and code clean-up
2. Prohibit the release of aquatic life in parks
3. Clarify that fireworks are prohibited; allow enforcement of smoking rule
4. Prohibit abandoning vehicle or vessel in a City park; prohibit off-road driving
5. Allow use of barbecue grills and stoves in designated areas
6. Clarify the animal section to include livestock
7. Prohibit the take-off/landing of drones, with some exceptions per state law
8. When a permit is denied, the City Administrator to review and decide
9. Prohibit the use of skateboards/wheeled devices from grinding, sliding, or launching, but clarify that otherwise wheeled devices are allowed in parks
10. Allow e-scooters and e-bikes in parks with specific rules for use, including time, place, and manner through Administrative Rules
11. Allow the City Administrator to promulgate Administrative Rules for parks for management purposes, like docks, metal-detecting, field use, permits

Park rule enforcement FY 23-24



26,000 issues resolved through voluntary compliance

Also contacted over **1,800** camps and provided over **1,500** referrals to shelter or services



4,000+ calls for service

Rangers can respond to civil, behavioral, or societal issues in parks



458 exclusions or ejections issued

When necessary, Rangers can require a person in violation to leave a park for a set period of time



280 issues referred to BOEC

Rangers refer serious issues with a criminal nexus, and serious medical problems, to BOEC

Anticipated improvements



Reduced dog conflicts

Improved visitor experience by reducing dog off-leash dangers, especially to staff and children, with updated enforcement policies.



E-bike and e-scooter clarity

Visitors and users of e-scooters and e-bike will have clarity on when, where, and how they may operate in parks.



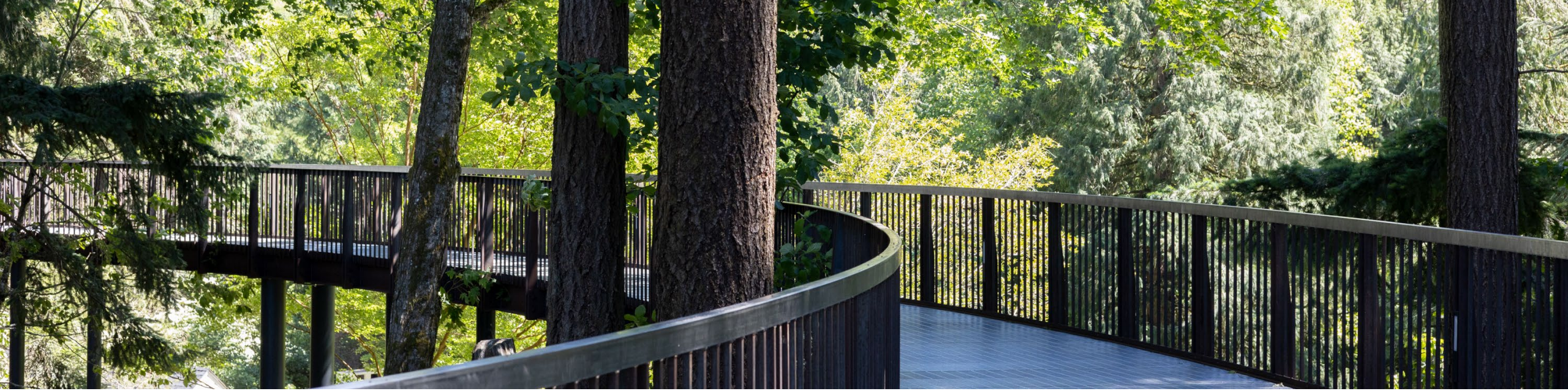
Less dumping

The City Administrator will have authority to hold violators accountable financially when they damage park property or dump waste in parks



Fairer permitting

Fairness and equity in permitting by ensuring events that have a significant impact have paid their fair share.



Discussion & Questions

- Effective January 1, 2025